

Religion —

T.D. Jakes hosts a women's summit

Page A7

Metro
Edition

CityLife —

Tribute to the National Negro Baseball League

Page B1

Local —

Local students honored for their diverse cultures

Page A8

CITY NEWS

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Serving New Jersey's African-American communities since 1983

I. Y.O.O. graduates overcome adversity



IYO co-founder Carolyn Wallace and IYO member Edward Conover

By Jean H. Pierre

NEWARK — It's 1970 in the City of Newark and everyone is recovering from the chaos and civil unrest of the late 60's. While many asked "what happened," Young people were taking the initiative to help the most impressionable and troubled group of people — teenagers — get their lives together. Now 29 years later, their focus hasn't changed.

Today, the International Youth Organization (IYO) is a growing social service organization serving disadvantaged youth and their families.

On June 24, the organization held an awards ceremony for its New Jersey Youth Corps members who received their GEDs through this school-to-work program.

James Wallace, who is the co-founder along with his wife Carolyn, talked about the importance of the program.

"What we wanted to do was teach young people how to do things for themselves," said Mr. Wallace, who developed the idea while he worked as a special policeman at a housing facility. "We want them to respect themselves and others and learn to take account for their actions, and be disciplined at everything."

Beginning with 13 students and parents, IYO has taken in close to 10,000 members since its inception.

IYO's goal is to involve its members in programs that will assure they enhance positive change through developing civic values, hard work, and discipline. Carolyn Wallace feels that's the element missing in kids today.

"Young people need structure and consistency," said Mrs. Wallace.

"We just let our kids get away with anything. The programs here emphasize that process of setting rules and guidelines," she said.

The 61 students awarded letters in 2,550 hours of academic instruction and 90,640 hours of community service. For Lamar Deck, it's been a long road to the top.

"They've instilled so much in me. My character is better and I have a very positive outlook on life," said Deck, who lost his parents and was left to raise his brother and sister at the age of 21.

"Life's going to have its ups and downs. I changed my ways and so can you. You just have to stay in there," he added.

IYO has eight sites in Newark, and recently purchased a complex adjacent to its main headquarters on South 12th Street.

Government resources, as well as corporations like the Prudential and PSEG, have assisted IYO in achieving its daily demands in helping teens and their families.

By Jean H. Pierre

NEWARK — The calls for justice rang loud and clear on June 26, as the People's Organization for Progress (POP) led a march to end racial profiling and police brutality.

The march, known as the "Long March for Justice," brought out hundreds of residents and political leaders by car and foot to end the tainted practice of law enforcement against minorities. Thomas Willis of Orange feels the community cannot lie down on the cause.

"This is an issue that shouldn't die," said Willis. "The police must know we're not going to stand by and do nothing. Our lives are on the line here."

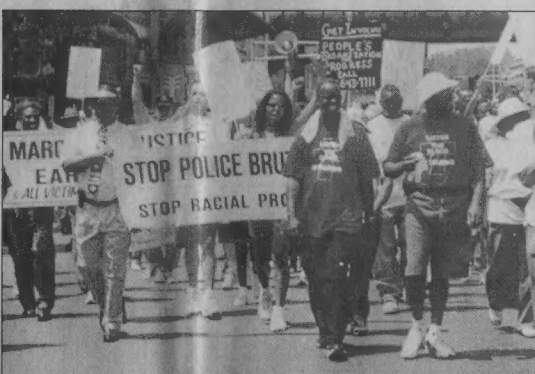
The 12.5-mile march covered the townships Montclair, East Orange, Orange, Irvington and Newark, where it ended on the steps of City Hall.

For Burthoun Davis, who came all the way from Albany, NY, it brought back memories from his days fighting for the Civil Rights Movement.

"Whatever it takes to spread the word of police misconduct," said the 66-year-old Davis. "We been doing this since the MLK days and I'm not tired at all. If we don't fight for what's ours, who will?"

Lawrence Hamm, chairman of POP, urged the marchers to keep pushing for change in the system. "This is just the beginning in getting truth and justice," said Hamm.

"We need reform of police and review boards at all levels. We're not going to rest until this



Marchers walk along the Evergreen Shopping Center on Central Avenue in East Orange, protesting racial profiling and police brutality.

comes into reality."

Several cases of police misconduct over the last year and a half led to this march.

West African Immigrant Amadou Diallo shot 19 times by four white officers of the NYPD in February.

Max Antoine beaten severely by four Irvington Police officers in 1997.

Aspiring rapper Earl Ford killed while in police custody for the murder of Orange Police officer Joyce Carnegie this past April.

The most recent event happened on Interstate 80 last month, as motorist Stanton Crew was run down by New Jersey State Troopers.

Twenty-seven times for allegedly running away from a traffic stop in Dover. Ingrid Crew, sister of the victim, hopes to bring attention to the issue.

"We know that these practices are happening in our community. No longer are we going to sit by and watch this continue," said Crew.

She added, "We'll continue to rally and protest. Take a stand now because it could be you."

POP will have several upcoming meetings that will deal with racial profiling and brutality. One of the biggest will be a march to the state trooper facility in Trenton on August 28, the day Martin Luther King, Jr. led the March on Washington some 36-years ago.

For information on marches and other events call the People's Organization for Progress at (973) 643-7711.

Are African Americans driving themselves to the poorhouse?



Proud aunt congratulates niece on graduation from college.

By Carol Davis
Correspondent

Many affluent African Americans spend more on car payments than they invest in their children's education, a recent survey revealed. The study by Ariel Mutual Fund and Charles Schwab Co. found 29 percent of black Americans say their number-one expense after basic necessities is their car payment, followed by education. So, despite having reached parity with whites in possession and planned purchases of cars, African Americans lag behind in saving and investing.

It seems money is not being when it comes to our love affair with wheels. In the African-American community, a luxury car is the ultimate status symbol, signifying one has arrived and is going places. Unfortunately, this ego-driven consumption happens at our children's expense. We could be driving the next generation straight to the poor house.

Many black families invest heavily in education. Take Terry Ramdeen of Roselle, who has shelled out hundreds of dollars every month to send Janelle, 5, to First Day Care Academy in East Orange. Ramdeen plans to save for college while keeping Janelle in private school, believing "you get more discipline."

And local educators say "a growing number" of black parents uphold the same values.

People with intellectual power will prosper in the future. But in the 21st Century, college education will be imperative, not an option. This reality fuels President Bill Clinton's vision of an America "where every 18-year-old can go to college."

Most parents share that dream and want their children to pursue higher education. But parents must offer more than just encouragement.

Parents must plan, rather than rely on scholarships and financial aid. If tuition continues rising at current rates, four years of college could cost \$56,599 at the average public college and \$119,617 at private college by the year 2008. By 2016, four years of public college could cost as much as \$92,193, and private college \$194,843. If your child is a baby, you need to invest \$200 to \$400 per month to get ready, depending on whether you aim for public or private college. If she is 10, you need to invest \$400 to \$900 monthly, assuming interest of 8 percent per year, compounded monthly.

Broadening horizons and opening doors, education is a great equalizer. We must learn to delay gratification and save and invest for tomorrow.

New Community Corp.: An offspring of Section 8



HUD state coordinator Diane Johnson and Monsignor William Linder, founder of New Community Corporation, at the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Section 8 Housing Assistance Program.

By Carl Chase and Gilda Rogers
Staff Writers

EATONTOWN — There are those who will offer up idle rhetoric about bighted communities, but then there are others who will rise to the occasion by offering hope and solutions to problems that appear all too consuming.

In the case of Monsignor William Linder, who has spent his entire priestly life in Newark, and is the founder of New Community Corporation, he indeed is a beacon of change.

Addressing over 250 HUD and housing authority officials at the Sheraton for the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Section 8 Housing Assistance Program, Linder delivered a moving testimony of what one person can do. His New Community Corporation has provided many families with a decent place to live. NCC owns 3,000 units of housing and employs over 1,600 people.

Linder's story begins in a wounded Newark, the aftermath of the 1967 summer disorders.

"We thought housing was the start," said Father Linder, who at the time had transferred to St. Joseph's parish, now the location of St. Joseph's Plaza, where NCC's restaurant and jazz club the Priory is a popular attraction

in the community. Presently, the corporation is also building the 206-townhome development Community Hills where the infamous Hayes Homes project once stood. In the former Borden Milk plant, NCC Technologies builds pre-fab modules for Community Hills. It soon will be a builder of whole modular homes, the only plant of its kind in the state.

At 201 Bergen Street, a Workforce Development Center promises to move 1,000 people each year off the welfare rolls and into gainful employment.

The first new supermarket in Newark's heart since before the riots, NCC's own Pathmark franchise on Bergen Street nets two-thirds of the profits for NCC. NCC even has an very complete credit union ranging from offering mortgages to financial planning services for residents.

"It was about community development," Linder said. "Section 8 has prompted the revitalization of our cities." Included in the program is a component called Family Self Sufficiency, which encourages tenants to become homeowners by investing money in an escrow account. The revitalization of our city began with a project based Section 8 program. It didn't just start with the coming of the NJPAC and an arena," he said.

Newark's sports arena: Truly a work in progress

By Charles Coleman
Correspondent

NEWARK — Although not etched in stone, the site and new home of the New Jersey Nets, according to popular opinion, has it being built between McGarrett Highway and Broad Street.

But there is no need to speculate that the New Jersey Nets' ownership, along with the Newark Sports and Entertainment Authority met officially and presented a proposal regarding the sports arena to the city council.

Looking to complete the Newark Bears' Minor League baseball stadium by the middle of this month, Prismatic Development is hoping to remain a force in helping to revitalize Newark.

"Prismatic will definitely be a prime bidder for the contract to build the new arena for the Nets in downtown Newark," said Steve Lang, assistant project manager for the Bears' stadium.

Gus Henningburg of Gustav Henningburg and Associates, who represents the Nets and the Newark Sports and Entertainment Authority as a consultant, said his people are ready to go, and expect ground-breaking to begin in March of 2000.

Gus Henningburg of Gustav Henningburg and Associates, who represents the Nets and the Newark Sports and Entertainment Authority as a consultant, said his people are ready to go, and expect ground-breaking to begin in March of 2000.

Architectural proposals for what the arena will look like were presented not a contractor to manage the facility. The project should take about two years to complete and should create at least 300 permanent jobs as well as many part-time positions, officials have estimated.

"Other sites have been discussed but Newark appears to be the most viable option because it has the infrastructure to support a new downtown arena," said Henningburg.

New York Yankees great Rick Cerrone, a Newark native who also plays for the Newark Bears, said an arena for Newark would continue to help do away with the perception that the city is nothing but a battle zone.

He added that from what he sees, people in Newark and state-wide are excited about the possibilities in Newark, and that you can have fun in the city.

According to Cerrone, the Bears' stadium should serve as another piece in the puzzle that is Newark's fast-changing image.

Indeed, however, the development of a new arena will assuredly displace many homeowners who currently live on the proposed site.

Approximately sixty homes and businesses will be affected by the development, officials say.

If everything goes according to plans, the municipal council is expecting to have a formal proposal along with costs and time frames submitted to them within the next few months.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

CRANFORD — Union County College will hold open registration for the summer session, 6:30 p.m. (908) 708-7603.

NEWARK — The Newark Museum presents classical and contemporary Asian dance in the Alice Ransom Dreyfus Memorial Garden, 12:15 p.m. (973) 596-6501.

MIDDLETOWN — The Monmouth County Park System will offer lessons in ballroom dancing for beginners. Tatum Park Hill Activity Center, 8 p.m. (732) 842-4000.

MONTCLAIR — The TheaterFest Broadway On The Hill, Inc. presents the play "142" at Montclair State University's Next Stage Theater through July 11, 8:30 p.m. (212) 238-6200.

THURSDAY, JULY 8

EAST ORANGE — The Black United Fund of New Jersey hosts a book signing with author Carlton Lewis and his latest novel "Pigmentation" 7 p.m. (973) 676-5283.

EDISON — The NAACP Branch of Metuchen-Edison Area hosts a discussion on dining at the Edison Job Corps Building, 7 p.m. (732) 205-9885.

LINCOLN — The Monmouth County Park System offers a class in sculpting at the Thompson Park Craft Center, 9 a.m. (732) 842-4000.

PISCATAWAY — The USATE Region II Junior Olympic Championship takes place at Rutgers University through July 11. Call (732) 296-0005 for time and information.

FRIDAY, JULY 9

MAPLEWOOD — The Ethical Cultural Society host a book chat session with author Anita Burley Call (908) 789-6933 for time and information.

SATURDAY, JULY 10

NEWARK — The New Jersey Community Water Watch will hold a "Summer Clean-up" at Wicquatic Park, 9:30 a.m. (973) 353-0021.

NEW BRUNSWICK — New Jersey Secretary of State Rev. DeForest Buxton Sorley, Jr. will hold a conference on components to a successful community-based initiative. Busch Center on the Campus of Rutgers University, 9 a.m. (973) 287-5533.

PATERSON — The 1999 Ms. Urban USA Pageant are taking applications for the annual contest that will take place on Saturday August 14. Call (1800) 265-2461 for information.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Historical

Society presents a family game activity for the whole family, 10 a.m. (973) 596-8500.

LINCOLN — The Monmouth County Park System offers a class in printmaking at the Thompson Park Craft Center, 12:30 p.m. (732) 842-4000.

NORTH WILMINGTON — New Jersey's official barbecue competition "The Budweiser and Kingsford Charcoal Thrill of the Grill" returns for another year of cooking excitement. Call (908) 881-6362 for time and information.

SUNDAY, JULY 11

NEW YORK — The New York Historical Society hosts an exhibit of historic Harlem, 1 p.m. (212) 873-3400.

ATLANTIC CITY — The Atlantic City Art Center hosts an astounding exhibit of paintings by Charles Meyers and Carmen Kolodziej, 12 p.m. (609) 347-2607.

MONDAY, JULY 12

JERSEY CITY — The Women's Center of New Jersey City University (NJCU) hold a support group meeting for gay and lesbians, 5 p.m. (201) 200-3426.

EDISON — The Middlesex County College holds a summer open house at the College Center, 4:30 p.m. (1-888) VOI-4MAC (908-6922).

MIDDLETOWN — The Monmouth County Park System offers lessons in swing dance, Tatum Park Hill Activity Center, 7 p.m. (732) 842-4000.

TUESDAY, JULY 13

ATLANTIC CITY — Playwright Kevin Cheatham hold auditions for his new play "Teenage Pregnancy" at the Uptown Complex, 6 p.m. (609) 348-6926.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

JERSEY CITY — The Women's Center of New Jersey City University (NJCU) hosts a group discussion on violence against women, 12 p.m. (201) 200-3426.

HOWELL — The Monmouth County Park System hosts a golf clinic at the Howell Park Golf Course through July 17, 1 p.m. (732) 842-4000.

FRIDAY, JULY 16

BELVIDERE — Matazazo Farms hosts the annual Native American Indian Powwow through July 18, 11 a.m. (908) 475-3816.

SATURDAY, JULY 17

NEWARK — The New Jersey Historical Society presents cooking demonstration on Puerto Rican Food, 1 p.m. (973) 596-8500.

ECC awards scholarships to four graduates



NEWARK — Essex County College (ECC) President A. Zachary Yamba (left) presented the college's Presidential Scholarship to four graduates who made significant contributions to the college. Recipients were, from left to right: the president, Newark residents and sisters Francine and Laurelle Martineau, East Orange resident Valerie Johnson and Newark resident Thomas Dickson.

Burrell honored at annual Teacher's Retirement Dinner



SADDLE BROOK — Erna Burrell (center) of Teaneck, was among the sixty-five retiring teachers of Bergen County schools who were feted at the Twelfth Annual Countywide Teacher Retirement Dinner held on June 4 at the Excelsior in Saddle Brook. The honorees represented over 2115 collective years in education. Mrs. Burrell retired after teaching for 33 years at Cleveland Elementary School, also in Englewood. The dinner was established and organized in 1988 by Freshholder Richard A. Mola (left) to express appreciation to educators for their years of service to county youth. Joining them is William Paterson University President Dr. Arnold Spear.

High School students complete internship with WBGO



NEWARK — Two Central High School seniors, Larrita Jackson and Jose Gonzalez completed an internship in the News Department at WBGO 88.3 FM. The internship required them to perform a wide variety of tasks and enabled the students to gain an overview of the world of broadcast news, including production, editing, voicing and writing. The two interns were active members of the WBGO news team, and were often called upon to cover press conferences and conduct street interviews pertaining to current topics. Both students have taken advantage of their internship experience and have used it as a stepping stone for their continuing education.

UPS Olympic Legacy scores points with Newark YMWCA



NEWARK — To extend its commitment and legacy to children in Newark, UPS hosted an Olympic Sports Legacy reunion celebration with the YMWCA of Newark on June 23, 1999. The event was held in conjunction with Worldwide Olympic Day. Among the festivities for the UPS Olympic Sports Legacy reunion were a barbecue, carnival games, an awards ceremony, and the appearance of Norman Tate, 1968 Olympian. The UPS Olympic Sports Legacy program began in 1997, with the donation of more than 500,000 pieces of new sports equipment to benefit children in 18 cities in seven countries.

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National Briefs

FIRST BLACK HUMAN RESOURCE CONFERENCE HITS PHILLY

PHILADELPHIA — More than 400 African American professionals will gather in Philadelphia for the first annual National Association of African Americans in Human Resources conference, September 27-29 at the Doubletree Hotel. Featuring workshops, executive roundtable discussion forums, keynote addresses and celebrity appearances, the theme for the 1999 national conference is "Soar Like an Eagle: Human Resources Lead the Way." Founded in 1988, the NAAHR was formed by a coalition local organizations of African American Human Resource professionals from across the country. The focus of the organization is to serve as a network and resource for professional development and advancement for NAAHR is truly an historic event," said Tom Vines, president, NAAHR. "The purpose of NAAHR and this conference is to provide a forum for discussion of a variety of issues that affect the quality of work life for African Americans across the country." For more information about NAAHR contact Barbara Daniel Cox at (215)684-1008.

CENSUS 2000 GEARS UP FOR KICK-OFF

WASHINGTON — Census 2000, the largest peace-time mobilization in U.S. history, is about to begin. About 300,000 workers will be needed to reach an anticipated 275 million people across the United States. The Census Bureau also needs help to recruit candidates for census taker positions in every neighborhood across the nation. Spread the word about census jobs to your family, friends and associates before beginning work for the Bureau. All employees must pass a security and employment reference check. All information is kept strictly confidential. Visit the Bureau's Internet site to get partnership ideas. <http://www.census.gov>

THE CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND LENDS SUPPORT TO 40,000 CHILDREN

ATLANTA — National leaders from across the country rallied behind the Children's Scholarship Fund (CSF) scholarship program that will provide education options to minority families nationwide. In the largest program ever, the CSF awarded 40,000 four-year partial scholarships to help low-income children in grades K-8 attend the school of their choice. CSF Chairman Ted Forstmann is joined by Andrew Young and Martin Luther King III in congratulating winners in all 50 states and nearly 3,000 cities — which included a large percentage of African Americans. There were in total 1.25 million applicants - 30 for every one scholarship. Families had to be low-income to apply (average income was less than \$22,000) and be willing to pay to supplement the partial scholarships. "It gives them a headstart and a great opportunity for whatever it is that they aspire to do in their lives," said Tanya Morris, a single mother from Philadelphia won a scholarship for her twin boys.

\$1.6 MILLION FEDERAL FUNDS SLATED FOR STATE'S WELFARE REFORM

TRENTON, NJ — NJ Transit has received \$1.6 million in federal funding on behalf of 10 local agencies to support Governor James McGreevey's New Jersey effort, a welfare reform plan to help New Jersey public assistance recipients achieve self-sufficiency. The \$1.6 million in funds, provided under the federal Department of Transportation's Job Access and Reverse Commute Program, will be used to implement 12 transit projects in 10 counties to support the Governor's initiative. NJ Transit also made local matching monies available to local agencies in their quest for the federal funding. The federal grants will allow NJ Transit to support local communities to undertake innovative approaches to help individuals access work. "We know the difficulty in getting to and from a job has been a major obstacle for many people on welfare," said Gov. Whitman. "This will help

Women of Color honor sisterhood at annual retreat

SEDONA, AZ — The tenth Anniversary Women of Color as Warriors of Light Retreat will convene August 12-15, 1999 on the red rocks and sacred land of the vortex. More than 100 African Heritage women will travel from South Africa to Southern California to celebrate the longest running, most consistently attended Black women's gathering in the country.

In 1989, Carmen Freeman dreamed of getting a diverse group of Sisters, creating an environment where each one's Light could be "Pumped up" and sending them back to their various communities to infect others. That vision became a reality in 1990, when a powerful alliance of women, consisting of Rachel Bagby, Ann Cooper, Gayle Hanlett, Malika Pettigrew, Patricia Sanders-Hall, Michele Simpson, and Wyoma joined Carmen and charged with "moving in mystery, alert to possibility," founded Women of Color as Warriors of Light.

The first retreat took place in Aspen, Colorado where special guest Susan Taylor, executive editor of Essence Magazine, spoke to 78 women from across the nation.

Since then other special guests have included Dr. Yvonne Battle of Sweet Honey in the Rock, authors J.

California Cooper and Sonia Sanchez, Glenda Dickerson, head of theater and dance at Spellman College, Diane Reeves, and Diane Houston, film maker and Academy Award nominee.

This year's special guest is Cleo Parker Robinson, founder, executive artistic director and choreographer of Cleo Parker Robinson Dance in Denver, Colorado. A native of Denver, Ms. Robinson holds degrees in dance education and psychology, and taught college level dance at the age of 15. Cleo Parker Robinson Dance, now 28 years old, celebrates the internationally known, critically acclaimed Ensemble, a year round school, a three-hundred seat theater and an outreach program for at risk youth.

Other presenters include Nuryo Masakane, Afro-Haitian and West African dancer/choreographer and co-founder of the Moyo Nvura Cultural Arts Center in Denver, Colorado; Adrienne Cruz, visual artist and educator, whose quilt "Dunamba" (African Rhythm) is pictured in the February 1999 Smithsonian Magazine.

A variety of healing venues, including reiki, yoga, massage, and acupuncture, will be featured in the abundant African marketplace,



will energize and empower the first, fourth and tenth time participant. With its heated pool, spas and state-of-the-art fitness center, Poco Diablo Resort is the ideal setting for

this event. Set on 22 acres of lush landscape, just 90 minutes north of Phoenix, Arizona, Poco Diablo is both close to Phoenix and Flagstaff airports. For further information and reservations, contact the Women of Color as Warriors of Light Retreat Information line at (888) WOL-4123, or access the web site <http://www.wolretreat.com>.

Rev. Jackson honored in Europe for humanitarian efforts

ROME — For his success in securing the freedom of the 3,400 soldiers held captive in Belgrade, RQV, Jackson received two international peace awards this week. On Tuesday, the Rev. Jesse Jackson traveled to Rome for the "Golden Dove of Peace Award." He is currently in Geneva, where he will be honored for his humanitarian efforts. The trips to Italy and Switzerland are

part of a week-long tour of Europe which includes a visit to Paris while in Europe. Rev. Jackson is meeting with world leaders and trying to follow his five-point plan on how to strengthen their commitment to human rights around the world.

The principle of human rights must be applied with consistency around the world," Rev. Jackson told leaders in Paris and Rome. "This principle transcends ethnicity, culture, race, language and religion. A commitment to human rights demands inclusion, the tent of human rights must cover all. No one should be left behind. There are not some among us who are more human than others. God does not prefer the life of an American or a European to the life of an African or Malaysian."

During the tour, Rev. Jackson

continued to highlight The Tale of Two Countries — the war in Yugoslavia versus the war in Sierra Leone. The government and the media have practically ignored the atrocities in Western Africa, he said. "A \$1.5 billion aid package for Kosovo was just announced at the G8 summit," Rev. Jackson said. "Where is the aid package for Sierra Leone? My own country, which just appropriated \$13 billion to cover costs associated with the conduct of the war in Yugoslavia, is sending the rather meager sum of \$15 million to the West African organization that worked to end the war in Sierra Leone. It is this tale of two continents? Perhaps. But not for long, because nations that are serious about their commitment to human rights cannot abide by disparities such as this. The gap in commitment must be bridged."

The African American Women's Tour Returns to Brooklyn

SAN DIEGO, CA — The Mobil African American Women's Tour conference returns to Brooklyn, NY at the New York Brooklyn Marriott, Fri. July 9 through Sun, July 11. AAOTW offers an impressive line-up of internationally renowned speakers on women's issues including Atlanta Shabazz, eldest daughter of the late Malcolm X and Betty Shabazz, who opens on Friday evening; radio and television personality Rev. Smith on Saturday; and former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. M. Joycelyn Elders on Sunday.

AAOTW offers a forum on preventive health, and an extensive offering of workshops ranging from conflict resolution, internet commerce and leadership effectiveness, to health, fitness and self-esteem building — all designed to enrich the personal and professional lives of black women.

New to the line-up will be a forum on Managing Elder and Terminally Ill Family Care.



Talk-show host Bev Smith is one of the featured speakers on the tour.

Howard University doctor named 'physician of the year'

WASHINGTON — Dr. Charles L. Curry, John B. Johnson Professor of Medicine and chief of the Division of Cardiovascular Diseases at Howard University Hospital (HUH) has received the American Heart Association's (AHA) 1999 Physician of the Year award.

The AHA Board of Directors selected Dr. Curry in recognition of his outstanding contributions towards the Association's mission of reducing disability and death from cardiovascular diseases and

maintaining the Hospital's strong legacy of excellence in health care and community service."

Dr. R. George Adams, president of the HUH Medical/Dental staff, and director of the Medical Intensive Care Unit, said: "Dr. Curry has faithfully served as one of our leaders at the American Heart Association and at Howard University Hospital, so it is a great honor and very appropriate that we pay tribute to him."

"His unwavering dedication to both teaching and medical research has directly impacted the caliber of doctors we are able to prepare for service in addressing critical medical issues surrounding cardiovascular care, and the level of health care we are able to offer the international community," Dr. Adams added.

Having opened its doors as Freedmen's Hospital in 1862, Howard University Hospital is the only academic medical center on the campus of an historically black college or university. It is home to nationally-recognized research centers, such as the Howard University Cancer Center, the Minority Organ and Tissue Transplant Education Program, and the Center for Sickle Cell Disease.

In addition, HUH is the site of a National Institutes of Health General Clinical Research Center, one of only 75 such centers nationwide, and the only one located in the nation's capital. The Center focuses on diseases that plague that national and African American communities: cardiovascular disease, breast and prostate cancer, AIDS, asthma, diabetes, sickle cell and vitiligo.

Howard University is a private, comprehensive Research I institution comprised of 12 schools and colleges. The University offers undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees through more than 180 areas of academic concentration. Its 11,000 students come from all 50 states and more than 100 foreign countries.

The University continues to rank first among all American colleges and universities in earning on-campus doctoral degrees to African Americans.



Howard University's Dr. Charles Curry

stroke. The AHA also recognized him for his work in low income communities and his influence not only on his physician peers, but also on other established cardiovascular programs.

The ninth physician to be so honored by the AHA, Dr. Curry began his tenure with HUH in 1970. He has been chief of cardiology since 1973, and for more than ten years, directed the HUH Center for Hypertension Control.

Dr. Curry is credited with teaching more African-American cardiologists in the last 30 years than any one else in the world.

He was the first African American to complete a residency in medicine at Duke University Medical Center and its affiliated hospitals.

"Dr. Curry's latest honor reaffirms Howard University Hospital's 137 year old tradition of leadership in medicine," said Howard University President H. Patrick Swygert. "Dr. Curry's work, and the work of his colleagues, are placed to add his name to the list of African-American pioneers who have dedicated themselves to establishing and

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THE SPIRIT OF THE CITY RETURNS

City Net 2000 kicked off last week with soaring energy and with the spirit to champion our intellectual, economic spirit, unjust wranglings, inferior education and the political stunts that create hopelessness and undernourished spirits. City Net is a deliberate effort designed to counter attack the barrage of negativity often surrounding the black community. City Net wants to reflect the positive side of the city where responsibility and achieving goals is the joy that comes in the morning. City Net wants to reflect the pillar of strength in communities, where education is first and foremost the rock of foundation. City Net wants to reflect communities where partnership and being plain old neighbors is not an unheard sound. Good news about people doing good things does the heart good - the spirit of the city.

Back-in the day that spirit created a bouncing harmony against injustices, which beckoned a new song for a new day - "Say it loud I'm black and I'm proud - activism not apathy reigned. City Net's declaration is to help usher back that spirit of the city by telling the stories of overcoming adversity to achieve the impossible, while chronicling business savvy economic accomplishments, never forgetting to feature the human side of sister and brotherly love throughout communities. Those who tirelessly work to uplift communities, we know you're out there in full-force continue to sing your song, while we sing your praises.

We're at the threshold of a new day. If not now then when will that change come. It's up to you, you and you to make it happen. Sign your declaration that appeared on last week's edition of City News proclaiming your independence from the status quo - help usher in a new spirit of the city.

AFRICAN PEOPLE AND ANCIENT EGYPT

By Dr. Conrad W. Worrill

Until recently, there had been a scholarly debate among European intellectuals, as well as some Blacks, on what they referred to as the people of ancient Egypt. What is this question really posed was who were the ancient Egyptians? Were they Black, white, mulatto, etc.?

This issue has been at the core of European history, or better yet, European historiography (the science of how history is written) for more than two hundred years. The work of European hegemony over the history of the world had a devastating impact on African people and the African mind.

It is in this context that we understand the intellectual devastation of the European conception of the world order. We should understand this in relation to our movement for an African centered education aimed at helping our people come out from beneath this European intellectual assault.

Let us use renowned African desert tribes and scholar Jacob Carruthers in a paper he wrote on the "Race of Ancient Egypt" in helping clarify this subject. This paper gives us the insights we need to understand this in regard.

Dr. Carruthers observes, "The doctrine of white supremacy was launched by philosophers like David Hume who asserted in 1749 'I am sure to suspect the Negroes to be naturally inferior to the whites'. This frame was expressed in a different context by Montesquieu about the same time.

We are guided by Dr. Carruthers when he explains, "In the Spirit of the Laws, Montesquieu asserted, 'It is impossible for us to suppose these creatures to be men, because, if we think them to be men, a suspicion would follow that we ourselves are not Christians.' Montesquieu was justifying the enslavement of Africans as being one of the major reasons for inventing the doctrine of white supremacy."

Upon further examination, Dr. Carruthers reveals, "Obviously the emerging doctrine could not gain credibility among those who were familiar with the traditional wisdom among Europeans that the ancient Greeks of high level had achieved a very high level of civilization had transmitted to the ancient Greeks many of the major ideas considered a part of Greek civilization."

Dr. Carruthers explains, "Several decades after the founding of the concept of white supremacy George Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel supplied the solution of this latter difficulty which at the beginning of the 19th century, he asserted that Africa was 'not a historical part of the world.'"

Finally, Dr. Carruthers quotes Hegel to demonstrate the ultimate in European intellectual arrogance,

Public school violence: An adult problem.

By Mike Green

School violence in Colorado, Georgia and elsewhere has left us with a cold-hearted message. The blame for "stupid" murderous tirades falls squarely upon our shoulders. As adults, shouldn't we be delving into the mental cavity of the boys and the immoral framework that makes up the environment we call public school?

First of all, the violence inflicted on our children by other children is a problem for which adults must accept responsibility. After all, we are the ones who pollute their minds with the garbage in movies and television. We are the ones who create innovative and fun games of felony murder. We are the ones who, at every opportunity, influence teens to establish intimate sex relationships even though we know it's immoral and unhealthy. We also allow and sometimes encourage the killing of their unborn children.

Furthermore, adults are the ones who give kids drugs and alcohol. We are the ones who give kids guns. We are the ones who let them down, build control pills and have adult. Adults are the culprits for magazines that target children and teens with images of violence. We give them music with lyrics encouraging sex, and television programs and movies depicting young people engaging in sexual relationships.

When we send our kids to school, we must also realize the influence upon our children from their peers. Kids raised with little or no respect for laws and authority of life and liberty, are more likely to potentially terrorize other children on a daily basis. This is the world of public schools. This is where our children are being taught to be happy to execute their unborn child or to leave the baby at the schoolhouse door.

If public schools are run contrary to the type of environment we'd like our children exposed to, then we should have the right to send them to whatever school we desire. Since the government uses tax money for public school funding, it should either return that money to us with a note of sincere apology or give us a voucher so that we can use to send our children to another—possibly private or religious—school.

Falling short of giving us a true choice, the government should either return the money to us or the government should stand out of the way so that we may teach our children respect for God's law and love for our fellow man, rather than a misguided notion of tolerance.

Fighting the real health care crisis

By Bruce Josten

Since the failed attempt of the Clinton Administration's health care plan five years ago, advocates of government intervention in the health care marketplace have backed off. They have been busy looking instead to court middle-class voters who already have health insurance—rather than their energy efforts to help the uninsured poor.

However, despite their success in this small-border approach as been, it is often a variable for its effects. It has driven up the cost of care for most people, and it has done nothing about the fundamental problem of 43 million uninsured Americans.

The tapered model of this recent "reform" has been regulation at the level—specifically, legislative mandates requiring that certain services, or certain types of providers, be included in the benefit packages of any insured. Private health plans that state "I reject that" have been evaded such statutory requirements of enacted such insurers must cover, and the federal government has been forced to follow suit.

Drop points out that Herodotus "after relating his eyewitness account informing us that the Egyptians were backwards, then demonstrated, with rare honesty for a Greek, that the Greeks borrowed from Egypt all elements of her civilization even the cult of gods, and that Egypt was the cradle of civilization."

Our scholars, thinkers, and researchers should never again be forced to credit such myths to the Egyptians. Clearly they were Black people! This is the message getting through at the national level. "Patients' Bill of Rights" now before Congress would add to 300 new mandates. According to Lewis, that

sex, so they pass out free contraceptives to prevent disease. In addition, day-care centers are appearing on campuses across the country. Is this what the government calls intellectual progress? In many of our public schools, teens wear what they want, smoke in designated areas, arrange drug connections, engage in intimate sexual affairs, are exposed to physical violence and face the dilemma of "fitting in" within some social group in a make-shift social environment that grow-up seem unwilling to accept. Perhaps, if God is willing, students may also learn enough to score well on their college entrance exams.

It seems government-controlled schools are not commissioned just to teach academics, but also their best of students. Our children learn to oppose the morals and principles a lot of parents teach at home. When they leave for school, kids can change their clothes, unpack their cigarettes, meet their buddies for alcohol and drug parties and engage in sexual relations. But they are not "teaching" them. They use their school-provided money. And if they should get pregnant, the public school will be happy to advise them on their "right" to execute their unborn child or to leave the baby at the schoolhouse door.

If public schools are run contrary to the type of environment we'd like our children exposed to, then we should have the right to send them to whatever school we desire. Since the government uses tax money for public school funding, it should either return that money to us with a note of sincere apology or give us a voucher so that we can use to send our children to another—possibly private or religious—school.

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Young black males in jeopardy

By Alex Poinsett

In seeking to assess risk factors with an eye toward developing intervention strategies, I find myself continually revisiting this question: What are developmental effects of being on the receiving end of abject terror as the anticipated (and all too often) actual response to oneself in the world? While other cultural "traumas" may also be viewed with contempt, loathing, and denial, no other group elicits in response of abject fear like African-American males.

It happens suddenly, and its timing is particularly problematic. With neither his participation nor his consent, a young African-American male awakens one morning having transformed from being a "cute" boy to a "menacing" young man. This transition occurs at a developmental stage when defining oneself and one's place in the culture is the crucial task to which he is being called.

I overheard a conversation on the BART train recently which left me deeply disturbed. Two boys (one black, one white) were traveling together, were traveling together to the city. The African-American youngster was relating to his companions an incident in which one of his friends was "cornered" (his word) by an Oakland policeman and struck in the stomach with a nightstick during the course of his questioning. The boy was relating the story with no affect, simply

explaining away this perpetration of violence with the aside, "you know how cops are." What has this resignation cost him?

Shortly after moving here, I read a newspaper article about the life of a young African-American male, a million-dollar "business." His organizational skills were favorably compared with those of the country's top CEOs. Will the youngster with the skateboard be the subject of such a piece when (if) he reaches his twenties, again with no analysis or discussion of how this came to be?

How long will we continue to perpetuate the double-bind in which African-American males are pathologized for their adaptive skills while we turn our collective backs on the tragic consequences of those adaptations? We cannot escape cultural responsibility regarding why so many young African-American males feel that they have "nothing to lose" when they face the cultural exercise of nearly categorizing their "pathology" (e.g., "failure syndrome," p. 1697).

What does the developmental actually look like, given these circumstances? How can we plan intervention strategies around these strengths? How can we begin to trying hard to decipher the metanessage of the rap music that so touches the souls and psyches of so many young African-American males?

From June 1999 to Census 2000: What's in it for Texas?

Dr. Kenneth Prewitz
Director, U.S. Census Bureau

June 19, 1999 and April 1, 2000, what's the link between June 19th festivities and "Census Day"? Why should anyone pause today on the oldest holiday celebration of the end of slavery, to think about Census 2000, which is still over nine months away?

The answer is direct and far-reaching. Only by mounting an all-out effort to count all Texans of African descent in 2000 can we be able to estimate our accurate population total. That number is important because it then translates into fair political representation and other and other needs for community services of all types.

In the last census, in 1990, Texas suffered the second highest undercount of all states. Nearly half a million Texas residents, an estimated 28 percent of the total, simply went uncounted. Those that were missed, over 80,000 were African American. Almost 4 percent of the black population of Texas in Austin, that number was almost 3,000. Nearly 5 percent of Austin's black population went uncounted. High undercounts were also recorded in

the Hispanic, Asian and Pacific Islander, and American Indian populations.

Nationwide, the Census Bureau tried hard but still disproportionately failed to locate persons with lower incomes, facing language barriers, living in irregular housing and these people are more apt to be missed. Undercounts from racial or ethnic minority groups. The national undercount for black people was estimated at 4.4 percent, compared with only 0.7 percent for non-Hispanic whites. In fact, 35 percent of the total undercount was black, even though they represent only 12 percent of the population. This is called "differential undercount" is a blight on our statistical system which everyone as well as professional statisticians demand that we erase.

Half the overall undercount consists of children. In Austin alone, an estimated 4,000 children were missed in 1990, so local authorities at the time never knew they existed. Based on state averages for school size from the National Center for Education Statistics, these Austin children would have filled 11 classrooms and required hiring of 400 teachers to staff these schools.

The undercount matters because the census matters. It matters to everyone because the census is the only thing in 1964 concerning "one person,

one vote" and to the Voting Rights Act of 1965, because states are expected to know the racial makeup of the voting age population. When district boundaries are drawn, it also matters to government agencies assessing racial disparities in health, environmental risks, housing, and lending. It is needed under the Civil

Rights Act to determine fairness of employment practices. And local planners use the data to determine how many schools are needed, where to build medical facilities, shopping centers, and so on.

June 19th is rightly a day of joy and pride and hope—a holiday on which to recall the day in June of 1865 when the troops landed in Galveston, Texas, to establish control over the state of Texas, in which about a third of the population was enslaved. General order 15 stated that all slaves are free. As word spread quickly, former slaves gathered in spontaneous celebrations, dancing, storytelling, and well come the end of their bondage.

Especially for people of color, who are struggling to make their voices heard in the halls of American democracy more inclusive being counted in the census is the foundation for full participation in the nation's life. Let's work together to getting your community's fair share of funds and services. Indeed, ensuring an accurate census has been called on by many groups and organizations over the years. As a result, Census 2000 had been endorsed by numerous organizations: the NAACP, the National Urban League, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, and the Congressional Black Caucus.

Working with these and many other organizations, there are many things individuals and groups can do at the local level. You can endorse the census in your community, you can encourage your workplace to help recruit people for the 860,000 temporary census jobs needed next year.

So on this June 19th, let us redouble our efforts to make sure that on "Census Day," April 1, 2000, all persons of African descent are included in the Texas census. Let's work together to ensure that our national count is more accurate than before, and therefore fairer for everyone.

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BUSINESS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JULY 8

UNION — The U.S. Small Business Administration holds a free business seminar on how to develop a business plan at Kean University's Small Business Development Center. 8:30 a.m. (908) 527-0946.

SATURDAY, JULY 10

NEWARK — The Urban League of Essex County offers a course in homebuyer education at the Urban League's Newark office. 9:30 a.m. (973) 524-9535.

NEWARK — Infotek Systems, Inc. hosts its Third Anniversary Networking Party at the Robert T. Hotel. 6 p.m. (973) 522-1000.

MONDAY, JULY 12

JERSEY CITY — The Women's Center of New Jersey City University (NJCU) hosts a seminar on legal education. 6 p.m. (201) 200-3426.

CRANFORD — Union County College offers a course on becoming a global professional in the business world. 7 p.m. (908) 760-7600.

SOMERVILLE — The Somerset County Chamber of Commerce hosts a workshop and conference on key business practices for employees and employers at its new headquarters at Rt. 22. 8 a.m. (732) 422-0500.

TUESDAY, JULY 13

CRANFORD — The New Jersey Technology Council and Software Industry Trade presents a seminar on business strategies. Arief Corporation Building. 5 p.m. (908) 452-1010.

TRENTON — Metropolitan Trenton African American Chamber of Commerce hosts its monthly meeting at Maxine's. 11:30 a.m. (609) 393-5933.

PARSIPPANY — The Morris County Chamber of Commerce hosts a business after hours luncheon at the Hilton Parsippany. 5:30 p.m. (973) 553-3582.

IRVINGTON — The Urban League of Essex County offers a course in homebuyer education at the WARIS Community Center. 6 p.m. (973) 746-3438.

CRANFORD — Union County College offers a course on becoming a global professional in the business world. 7 p.m. (908) 760-7600.

Economic Empowerment

The future of economic reconstruction

By James Clingman

Quite often Black people find ourselves embroiled in a skirmish which, even if won, adds absolutely nothing to our net worth. You see, many of the issues we involve ourselves in merely divert our attention away from what is really important to our people: economics. Of course, there are other issues facing us, but as Booker T. Washington said, as the bottom of politics, at the bottom of education, and at the bottom of religion, lies economics.

It's a pretty good bet that no matter where you live in this country, there are heated discussions on things like what we should call ourselves, what we should wear (didn't we go through that one in the 1960s?), and "Roberts Rules

of Order" (some call it "Roberts Rules"). These issues provide deep emotions and often lead people away from one another. This keeps us from our charge of uplifting our people collectively.

The most important issue facing Black (or African or African-American) people today is economics. Horace Suddipat, president of the National Negro Business League, uttered those words in 1951. Think about it: Black businesses were doing pretty well back then. If the and others felt that economics was the top issue then, why should our thoughts be different today? A better question is: What should our actions be today?

Rather than spending one valuable time beating up one another about names, titles, and positions, we should

be building our trust and love for one another. Rather than worry about light skin versus dark, straight hair versus curly, Baptist versus Methodist, Mercedes versus Chevrolet, Democrat versus Republican, nation versus Black, and all the other non-issues that plague our people, let's get down to real business.

If economics is the most important issue, then we must act upon that fact. We must put aside our petty differences and throw off our clouds of divisiveness, and we must be about the business of leaving a positive economic legacy for our children. Now. If it was critical in 1967, in 1990 and in 1991, it must surely be critical to us in 1999.

Our charge from people like Washington, Bethune, Garvey, Douglas,

Malcolm and King is to take up the economic gauntlet and move our people forward. We renege and brag about the good old days of the Greenwood District in Tulsa, Okla., all-Black towns and economic foundations and communities in which we all cared for each other.

Well, it's time to wake up. We must stop dreaming and start doing something to reconstruct the economic legacy our grandparents and great-grandparents left us. We have to cease being so intellectual and so above us that we miss what is really important. Instead we must start thinking as a nation within a nation. Regardless of how far up the ladder you go or how "accepted" you feel, you are still Black, or whatever you want to call yourself.

Other groups practice nationalism

everyday and prosper by doing so. Why shouldn't we? There's absolutely nothing wrong with it. Somehow we have been programmed to believe that doing for self and putting our people first is wrong. But, unless we begin practicing a nationalistic approach to economically empowering our people, we will continue to find ourselves in the same position we fight against daily.

Stop majoring in the minors. Our major must be in economics, specifically economic empowerment. Enroll in a class near you, and don't be a dropout. Make the Honor Roll.

James Clingman is the founder and President of the Greater Cincinnati African-American Chamber of Commerce.

Thomas Edison State College Foundation receives \$100,000 AT&T Foundation Grant

TRENTON — Brian T. Maloney, vice president and managing partner, AT&T Solutions, presented a check for \$100,000 from the AT&T Foundation to Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College, at the June 18 meeting of the Thomas Edison State College Foundation Board of Directors here. The grant was awarded in support of the Distance Learning Certificate Program, which will provide faculty with professional training in distance learning.

"I am proud to be both a member of the Thomas Edison State College Foundation Board of Directors and an employee of AT&T, which once again is demonstrating its commitment to support higher education in New Jersey," said Maloney. "AT&T is the world's premier provider of voice and data communications, with more than 80 million customers, including businesses, government and consumers. AT&T operates the world's largest, most powerful long-distance network and the largest wireless network in North America. The company is a leading supplier of



Brian Maloney (left) presents check to George A. Pruitt

data and Internet services for businesses and the largest direct Internet access provider to consumers in the U.S. AT&T also provides local telephone service to a growing number of businesses.

"This grant acknowledges the truly outstanding accomplishments that have been made possible by the support of the AT&T Foundation and others on behalf of the College and its students," said Dr. Pruitt. "Their support will help the College to work together with faculty to help them prepare for the challenges of the 21st Century as well as securing personal enrichment in their profession."

The Distance Learning Certificate Program will develop an innovative curriculum in the techniques of developing materials and courses, and in teaching distance education courses. Through a series of professional development seminars, faculty will learn how to prepare course materials for distance learners, develop computer-based presentations and interact effectively with students in an online environment. This faculty development program will stimulate faculty imagination, empowering them to communicate, teach and facilitate student learning in new ways.

"For faculty, a key factor in successfully teaching in a distance learning environment is learning how to avoid or overcome the barriers that sometimes occur in a networked learning community," explained William Seaton, associate vice president for Distance Education, Center for Distance & Independent Adult Learning (DIAL) at Thomas Edison. "For example, how does one make a course delivered online personal and interactive? This program will address these concerns, and deal with issues like timely feedback to and from students and with the technical difficulties that some students will have."

South African brandy IMOYA VSOP debuts in NYC



NEW YORK — AWA Agency representatives hosted KVV International's world premiere launch of the company's newest brandy, IMOYA, at the Museum for African Art in New York City. Staff members include (l-r) Edward J. Harris, creative director; Adrienne C. Smith, president; David D. Roberts, director promotions and Rahan R. Lindsay, account director.

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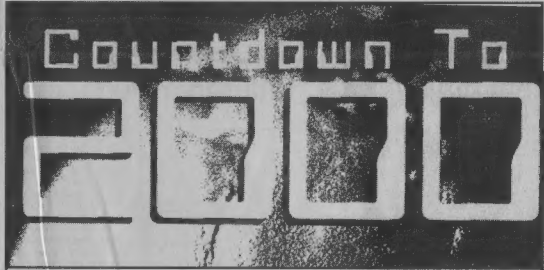
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Religion

July 7 — July 13, 1999

City News A6

RELIGION CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS — St. Paul's Baptist Church will hold bible study and prayer meeting, 7:30 p.m. (732) 732-0321.

NEW YORK — The Good News Church will take place at Midtown Square Garden's Club Bar and Grill with special guest Bishop T.D. Jakes. Call (212) 785-9824 for time and information.

FRIDAY, JULY 9

PLAINFIELD — The House of Prayer hosts its 12th Annual Youth Weekend through July 11. Call (908) 561-8896 for time and information.

SATURDAY, JULY 10

NEWARK — Bethany Baptist Church will hold a church bazaar, 8 a.m. (973) 823-8161.

NEW YORK — Lincoln Center host a gospel celebration featuring today's gospel artist Macy Jackson, part of the Lincoln Center Festival. Avery Fisher Hall, 8:30 p.m. (212) 721-6500.

NEW YORK — The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and The New York Public Library presents a tribute to the life and work of gospel singer Tammy A. Dorsey, 1 p.m. Call (212) 875-5391 for location.

ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS — St. Paul's Baptist Church will host a planning and picnic, July 10, 10 a.m. (732) 872-0321.

MONDAY, JULY 12

NEWARK — Church of God in Christ and New Garden State Jurisdiction presents "Youth Explosion '99," a celebration of music and prayer through the 16th Memorial Church of God in Christ, 8 p.m. (973) 375-6072.

TUESDAY, JULY 13

SUMMIT — Pathways and Cancer Care sponsor a free workshop for parents with cancer at Calvary Episcopal Church, Call (908) 277-9693 for time and information.

Women called to pray in Atlanta

ATLANTA — Women throughout the country and around the world anticipate their largest Christian gathering to date, as they prepare to converge in Atlanta for Bishop T. D. Jakes' Fourth Annual *Women, Thou Art Loosed!* Conference at the Georgia Dome July 29-31. "Wailing Women Win" is theme for the 1999 conference - billed by the Atlanta Business Chronicle as one of the top five meetings (ranked by attendance) Atlanta hosts.

Bishop Jakes pastors one of the fastest growing churches in the nation — The Potter's House church in Dallas, Texas — and has emerged as a world figure, a Christian "Renaissance man" sending forth messages of empowerment and healing in sermon, song, and literary work to a globally mushrooming audience of boundless demographics. This high-profile African American evangelist brought the *Women, Thou Art Loosed!* Conference to Atlanta last year after the conference outgrew facilities in other areas around the country.

More than 52,000 women participated in the three-day conference in 1998. This year, pre-registrations indicate numbers will swell to more than 75,000, prompting the ministry to seek overflow space at the adjacent World Congress Center. The conference audience will include about 3,000 international guests from more than 20 foreign countries, including a bevy of public and celebrity personalities, and high profile figures victors and victims — who have dominated the news this past year. More than a hundred women from Atlanta are shelters will be special guests at the conference.

Through the *Women, Thou Art Loosed!* Conference, Bishop Jakes brings a fervent message of hope to women in all life stages and circumstances as he continues to unfold the message that first appeared in a best-selling book by the same name, and resonated with women around the globe in 1993. This motivating plea for healing of the female heart his



Bishop T.D. Jakes to host his Fourth Annual "Women, Thou Art Loosed!" conference.

since morphed into a number of other forms, including the conference, a musical recording, and most recently a powerful dramatic play. The play, which debuts in Chicago July 20-25, opens July 27 in Atlanta at the Atlanta Civic Center just prior to the conference, and runs through August 1. The hard-hitting musical drama tackles tough women's issues, including relationships, sexual abuse, and more.

And the ministry is not confined to those who can attend. For the fourth year, Bishop Jakes will beam the evening meetings into hundreds of women's and men's prisons around the country, allowing tens of thousands of incarcerated inmates to tune in. At least two prisoners will be interacting live with the Georgia Dome gathering.

Positively Black

By Junious Ricardo Stanton.

(NNPA) — "Equal rights and equal justice will never come from appeals to the mighty, and granted as an Act of Grace, but only from their own position of power and influence which develop from a united people engaged in great and vast undertakings of their own. If we fail to accept this challenge, at this critical turning point in our history, we will have proved ourselves unworthy of having any descendants, and our very names should be forgotten by them or cursed by the farthest generation." Chancellor Williams wrote.

Scholar, researcher and teacher Chancellor Williams astutely recognized that justice, righteousness, freedom and prosperity cannot come from begging, only from the determination, initiative, action and empowerment of a united people. Our greatest leaders have told us "Do for self, accomplish what you will." It is time we adhere to their admonition. It is time we become engaged in great and vast undertakings of our own for the betterment of our people.

We lack nothing except the vision and will. The Bible says "where there is no vision the people perish." What will it take for us to have a new vision of ourselves? When will we turn off the television, put down diversionary/capitalist material and take a serious look at ourselves and our predicament? When will we stop begging, crying and pleading for folks to do the right thing or appealing to a morality it's obvious they don't possess — at least not toward us.

Energy follows thought. Do you think about black people making progress? How do you define it? Is it a new car, a new home, exiting yourself from your own people? Can you even imagine black people getting it together, cleaning ourselves up, putting down the pipe, the bottle, negative and toxic thought patterns and behaviors? If not, why not? Where is your vision? If you don't have one, how can we possibly better ourselves? If you have no plan or aren't engaged in developing one, how will we prosper and survive?

Even those of us who are doing well should be thinking about making

things better for others.

We come from a tradition of collectivism where the well-being and prosperity of the whole group was the focal point. One of the greatest and vastest undertakings we can initiate is making sure we look out for our brothers and sisters, that we reach back and pullpush others along. Age is not a factor. Back in the day we used to say revolutionaries don't retire.

People opposed to oppression in every form and who desire to actualize their own genetic potential and assist others in doing likewise can never retreat.

Our challenge is to convince ourselves we are worthy, capable and competent and then act accordingly. Actions speak louder than words. The world is desperate for the right actions not slogans. We have an obligation to the Creator, our ancestors and our progeny to become the best of who we are, to discover our talents, exhibit our genius and make this world a better place. Life is not a spectator's sport.

We have a two-fold obligation: self-actualization and assisting our brothers and sisters. You can make a difference in the quality of your own life as well as those around you. Our children need to see us standing up for justice, having the courage of our convictions and making our way in the world not compromising our morality or acquiescing to evil. How else will they learn to be courageous and bold in their convictions.

Charles Houston and Thurgood Marshall took on the awesome task of dismantling a firmly entrenched, governmentally-sanctioned racial caste system, and won! Our vision may not be as lofty theirs, but it is vitally important that each of us has a goal beyond making money.

What is your destiny? What contributions are you making to the world? How are you using your power and influence? Are you doing anything positive in your community. Are you contributing to or assisting those who are? If not, why? If we abdicate our responsibility we deserve to be erased from history, deemed unworthy and cursed by the farthest generation. That is not our tradition. I am not prepared to allow that to happen. Are you?

New bible with a contemporary view

(NAPS) — To spark the imagination of the world, that's the reason Brother Dietrich Reinhart, President of Saint John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota, gives for commissioning the first handwritten Bible in almost 500 years. The university, along with the Benedictine monks of Saint John's Abbey, has commissioned one of the world's foremost calligraphers, Donald Jackson, to handwrite a seven-volume, 1,150-page Bible. The first page of The Saint John's Bible was unveiled this month, and the entire work will be completed in 2004.

The recently unveiled first page depicts a passage from the book of Matthew describing the family tree of Jesus. The page depicts the tree as a Jewish molecule intertwined with spirals suggestive of DNA molecules, with ancestor names written in English, Arabic, and Hebrew.

"Writing the Bible is the calligraphic artist's Sistine Chapel," said Jackson, who also holds the position of scribe to Queen Elizabeth's Crown Office at the House of Lords in the United Kingdom. Jackson's gold-leaf illustrations, which will accompany the handwritten text of The Saint John's Bible, will interpret Bible passages from a contemporary perspective, reflecting



ing humanity's advances in the past 500 years and an increasingly global society. Images from science and technology, as well as from different religious traditions including Islam, Hinduism, and Taoism, will be depicted. Positive images of women from the Bible also will be highlighted.

Jackson and other consulting artists from around the world will goose quills and hand-mixed inks on vellum, following the ancient tradition of manuscript production. However, 20th-century technology will enable Jackson to create a digital template on a computer and plan

each page of the seven volumes. Most of the work will be completed at Jackson's scriptorium in Wales, in the United Kingdom.

The text of The Saint John's Bible is the New Revised Standard Version, a modern English translation that is widely used in Catholic, Eastern Orthodox and Protestant churches, and that uses gender-inclusive language.

The Abbey and university plan to tour the volumes to museums and libraries around the world. For more information, visit the web site at www.saintjohnsbible.org or call 800-635-7303.

Black people respond to targeted marketing campaigns

According to a report by Packaged Facts, black people are highly receptive to financial services that are marketed to them. Example: Deluxe Corporation, by creating a check series commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King, exceeded their market projections by 1.5%.

*Packaged Facts is a product of FIB/DSP Research Public Affairs Group

2 great ways to reach the African-American Business & Professional Community



Minority Business Journal

The *Minority Business Journal* is a monthly publication focusing on minority and women business enterprises in New Jersey and New York City. *MBJ* regularly features the accomplishments of minority and women businesses, information concerning maintaining and expanding business, opportunities available for minority entrepreneur, a calendar of events, editorial and commentary — facing minority businesses. *MBJ* offers an excellent forum for classified and display advertising and special business and professional card directories. *MBJ* provides an important communication link in the information network vital to the growth and economic development of minority communities.

Minority Business-to-Business Directory

The *Minority Business-to-Business Directory* is a directory of minority- and women-owned businesses and companies committed to doing business with minorities. The *Directory* networks minority businesses, identifies minority and women businesses with whom public and private sector businesses and agencies can contract for products and services, and exposes a growing force of minority businesses to the general consumer. The *Directory* features listings and advertising, as well as provides a two-page guide for minority and women entrepreneurs and potential entrepreneurs to help facilitate starting and maintaining a business. The *Minority Business-to-Business Directory* includes listings from public and private sector businesses and agencies, minority and women-owned businesses and small businesses. A delineation of ownership is provided with each listing. The *Minority Business-to-Business Directory* is a tool for the growth and expansion of minority and women entrepreneurs and economic development in the African-American community.



Call (908) 754-3400 for more information

Minority Business Journal & Minority Business-to-Business Directory opens up a whole new world of possibility

How does the Word at your House of Worship inspire you?

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P.O. Box 1774,

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please send to:
City News
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or call 908-754-3400 or fax to 908-753-1036

CityNet 2000

Declare your independence.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

— Declaration of Independence

As City News Publications Inc., rightfully takes a place in the new millennium we proclaim an abrupt exaltation of the evil from our nations past. The horrific voices of discrimination, racism, sexism, medical disparities, and the miseducation of generations will not be welcomed in our illustrious 21st Century. — We do declare.

We hereby, proclaim our independence from any and all negative factors which have infiltrated our communities. We invite you to celebrate our freedom and reap from the seeds that we can harvest together. CityNet 2000 will lead the way as the drum major with a revolutionary 16-page weekly resource library all about our communities. From Paterson to Asbury Park, City News Publications will serve as the community center which unites the gospel of the church with the reformation of the education system; the voting drives in the political arena to the accumulation of wealth in urban communities. CityNet 2000 will truly reflect the spirit of the city and you are vital in keeping this spirit alive.

- If you are a thriving business in New Jersey or New York, tell us your story.
- If you direct a mentoring program which prepares our youth for the corporate world, tell us your story.
- If you are heading a research project to cure an epidemic, tell us your story.
- If you are a rising athlete, with the desire and discipline to train hard, tell us your story.
- If you are a religious center rebuilding our communities faith, tell us your story.
- If you are being treated unjust, unrighteously or inhumane, tell us your story.

"In order to lift ourselves and our communities, isn't it past time that we stopped letting the majority-community press speak for us and shape images of ourselves," stated William Reed, publisher of "Who's Who in Black Corporate America." "Too few of us have positive self-image in things black. Those that do have to organize processes to link-up black media and press with your families, neighborhoods and church congregations. These groups need to subscribe and read black newspapers every week. Utilizing our own media will help our self-image and social development."

So "Up You Mighty Race," for we will move forward by any means necessary because City News has a dream and you, the people of New Jersey, the heart of the community, is what will keep it alive.

Make sure your voice is heard and your stories are being told. Become a part of CityNet 2000. City News is depending on you to funnel information to us, so that we may curtail economic strife's, educational mishaps, and political misrepresentation.

I declare my commitment to the growth and development of our black and urban communities in the new millennium.

Signed _____ Date _____

Please return to City News Independence, PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07061 or fax to (908) 753-1036.

Local Briefs

NAACP Accepting Scholarship applications

ELIZABETH — The Elizabeth NAACP branch is presently accepting scholarships from graduating seniors. The branch, in conjunction with several local corporations, will be awarding several scholarships to graduating high school seniors on Oct. 15, 1999 at its annual Freedom Fund Award Banquet. The awards range from \$250 to \$1000. Deadline for submission is July 31. The only requirement to qualify for these scholarships is that you must be a 1999 high school graduate and your 1998 family income must be less than \$75,000. Applications can be obtained at the principals office at all local high schools - public and private. In addition, applications are available at the branch office located at 55 West Grand Street, Elizabeth. For further information, please call (908) 965-1009.

E.O. PTA President Donna Johnson Peace receives award

EAST ORANGE — Donna Johnson Peace, President of Clifford J. Scott High School PTA, received East Orange Superintendent of Schools, Dr. John Howard, Jr., Superintendent award for her commitment of service and to improving education for the children of East Orange despite the myriad of obstacles that she faced during the school year. The Award was presented by the East Orange Unified Council of PTAs/PTO's at the District's first annual Parent Recognition Dinner held on June 23, at the Board of Education offices. Peace, in accepting the award, admonished parents to work together for the good of the children and to stop in-fighting and other divisional tactics. Three other parents were also presented with special awards: Paula T. Blanton with the Longevity Award for 23 years of PTA service, Sharon Minicy, who created the Council's webpage with the Creativity Award, and Zote Barnett with the Advocacy Award for establishing an effective network of parent advocates throughout the district.

Continental Terminal Expansion Approved

NEWARK — Assemblers William Payne applauded the Port Authority Board of Commissioners for approving Continental Airlines' \$1 billion terminal expansion project at Newark International Airport. Payne lauded the private-public investment project as a major-league economic development plan that will create 3,200 construction jobs and stimulate 3,200 permanent local jobs upon the project's completion in 2002. Payne called the Port Authority's approval of the project "a victory for taxpayers, commuters, and anyone who seeks to stimulate economic development through regional cooperation." Continental's expansion plans for Terminal C will result in 600,000 square feet being added to the current one-million-square foot facility. The result will be a three-level terminal with two levels dedicated for departures. It will include a new concourse with 12 wide-body gates, all new retail areas and customs and immigration facilities. Passengers also will find it easier to travel from one concourse to another without having to be re-screened by security. "This project has profound economic benefits for the entire state and it greatly enhances the City of Newark's ability to compete more aggressively against other commercial centers in the Northeast," said Payne.

Newark Library receives \$500,000 Carnegie Grant

NEWARK — The Newark Public Library has received a \$500,000 grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York. The funds will be used for the library's "Branch 2007" project to enhance and expand system-wide collections and services. The project targets Newark's 86,000 children and youth, ages five to nineteen, through two programs: The Community Health Information Project and the All-Branch Collection Development Project. The former program is a significant source of vital health information for the city's adolescents and will be expanded from four to ten branches. The latter will upgrade the library's collections of basic materials - poetry, literary criticism, biographies and strengthen its holdings in math, science, career information and technology. "It is important to enhance the collections and services we offer Newark's children," explained Dr. Alex Boyd, director of The Newark Public Library, "since they are our future." Twenty-five public libraries nationwide are sharing in the \$15 million award from the Carnegie Corporation. The Newark Public Library was the only one selected from New Jersey.

Loan Fund uplifts low-income families

New Jersey's only statewide community development financial institution celebrated another year of significant accomplishments at Newark's Gateway Hilton Hotel on June 22nd. Over 200 community and business leaders gathered to hear Melinda Green, national director of the African American Elderly Childhood Resource Center of Washington, DC praise the New Jersey Loan Fund as a groundbreaking initiative in child care, at this year's annual event.

Starting from birth, brain development during the earliest years of life will affect each person's life potential," said Green. "The Loan Fund is leading the way to make community-based early care and education providers capable of providing high quality learning environments, linked

with employment and community development opportunities for low income families.

Over 45 child care centers are participating in the group's innovative program called Building Stronger Centers. Utilizing a significant federal award of \$1.2 million, the organization has grown in eleven years to \$14 million under management, which has resulted in \$34 million of loans to help create affordable housing, child care, community facilities and jobs for over 15,000 low income people. This year will be its biggest year of lending and technical assistance, with over \$3 million of commitments resulting from work with over 100 community based organizations and small businesses.

Tuesday's event was hosted by Fleet Bank, N.A. whose senior vice

president for community development, Joyce W. Harley, said, "The Loan Fund is a unique resource to community-based housing and development organizations and its Annual Gathering is a premiere networking event for everyone involved in the field, to which Fleet is deeply committed."

Harley, of South Orange, was elected to the group's 21 member board of trustees along with Marie Mascheri of Mercerville executive vice president of Quaker Capital, a mortgage company head-quartered in Voorhees, Donald A. Griesman of Venson, executive director of Cape Atlantic Legal Services in Atlantic City and Rosita Saez of Glassboro, senior vice president of First Union Bank.

Distinguished Service Awards for leadership in community economic development were presented to Connie M. Pascale of Trenton, senior attorney, Legal Services of New Jersey, in Edison, Robert M. Farley, executive director of a Newark nonprofit called Unified Yalburg Service Organization, and Susan U. Bredelhoff of Holmdel, senior vice president and director of conscience for Summit Bancorp. Awards were presented by the organization's president Preston D. Pinkett, III of Peapack, senior vice president for PNC Bank, trustee, Alan Mallach a Trenton resident, recently retired as Director of Housing & Development for the City of Trenton resident, and Anne S. Li of Summit, executive director.

Council meeting highlights civil rights Garden in Atlantic City

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts (NJSCA) held a regular business meeting on March 30 at the Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort Hotel in Atlantic City directly following the Annual Governor's Luncheon at the 1999 Governor's Conference on Tourism.

The major focus of the meeting was a presentation on the Civil Rights Garden which will be constructed at the Carnegie Library on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. in Atlantic City. The project is funded by the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) and is expected to be completed by August 1999.

"This project relating the major milestones of the civil rights movement in a public art installation is a result of a significant partnership with the CRDA," said Council Chairwoman Penelope Latimer. "The Council is grateful for CRDA's initiative in what will surely be an important opportunity for New Jerseyans to experience and learn through the arts."

The presentation on the Garden was made by Dr. Clement Alexander Price, Professor of History at Rutgers, Newark, and consulting historian on the project. A former chairman of the NJSCA, Dr. Price was joined in his presentation by Tom Moran, NJSCA Visual Arts Coordinator, Susan Ney of CRDA and Robert Preston, landscape architect.

The Civil Rights Garden, designed by Larry Kirkland, will detail major milestones of the civil rights movement through a series of winding pathways leading past granite columns etched with quotations from key speeches by Dr. King. In addition, a huge bronze bell, standing over a central pool of water will sound periodically and resonate as movement in the pool's surface. Completing the project will be a tall column at the farthest end of the garden pathway with a white marble hand, raised in oath, in tribute to one of the movement's key goals, securing an amendment to the voting rights act.

Code Adam becomes new law in Garden State

TRENTON — Governor Whitman recently signed an innovative child protection measure Assemblyman LeRoy J. Jones sponsored despite state. New Jersey as a "CODE ADAM" state.

"New Jersey is now a Code Adam" state," said Jones (D-Essex). "Working together—communities, businesses and police officers - all will share responsibility for protecting children throughout the state."

Named after Adam Walsh, who was tragically abducted from a shopping mall in Florida and subsequently killed, "CODE ADAM" is a special alert issued by department stores and supermarkets when a customer reports a missing child. A brief description of the child is then provided to all associates, who immediately stop their normal work to search for the child. Store employees also monitor all exits to ensure that the child does not leave the store.

"The success of 'CODE ADAM' depends on the community response," said Jones. "Parents need to know that when their worst nightmare strikes the plan of action is available."

Wakefern Inc./Shop-Rite Supermarket was the first store to implement the safety measure in its stores in New Jersey.

The law promotes awareness of "Code Adam" and encourage stores to adopt the policy.

Statistics compiled by the National Crime Information Center - which collects crime statistics for the FBI - demonstrate the severity of child abductions in New Jersey and the nation. 1,007 children have already turned up missing in the state of New Jersey so far this year. Over the last decade the national rate of abduction has increased by 519 percent.

"In just six short months more than a thousand families have been forced to endure more than a thousand nightmares," said Jonathan "Cherry," it is time for us to do a better job of protecting our children."

Herb House dedicated as county child care center

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will dedicate Herb's House, a child care center for county employees, at a special ceremony on Tuesday at 3 p.m. The center, which will provide day care for 53 children, is named in honor of Herbert Dirzela, county employee and children's advocate who died in 1998. It will be located at the Andrew K. Rutolo Justice Center at 32 Rahway Avenue in Elizabeth.

Herb's House will feature an enclosed play area, will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. to accommodate the range of hours for county employees and its proximity to the county building will allow parents to visit children during breaks. It will be run by The YMCA of Eastern Union County.

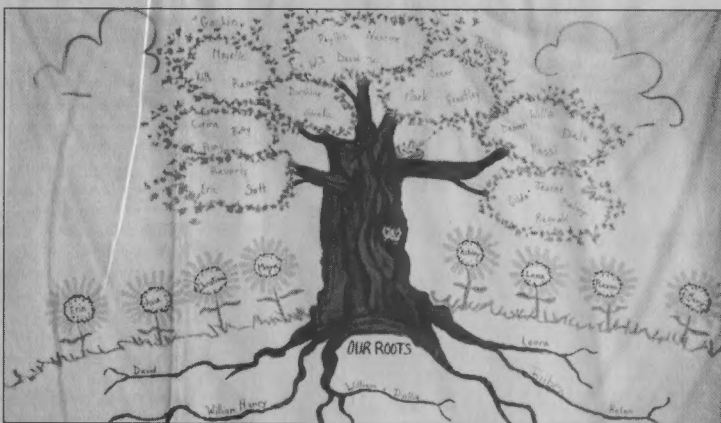
"County Government should take the lead as a family-friendly employer, to set an example for businesses," said Nicholas Scutari, Chairman of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Digital worked for the Union County Office of Public Information from 1996 until his death at age 44. After touring children's hospitals in the former Yugoslavia in 1992, he worked with international aid and government officials to send two shipments of medical aid during the war in Bosnia. He raised \$15.5 million for supplies from pharmaceutical companies and philanthropists, and insisted that they be sent to children's hospitals in Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia. He also had organized many toy drives in Union County.

Cit Honors Students of Diverse Cultures



The CIT Group's seven-year program, "CIT is Pro-Education" recently honored six students with individual \$2,500 scholarships. Albert R. Gamper, Jr., president & CEO of The CIT Group, (pictured center), is a member of the Board of Governors at Rutgers University and a Rutgers graduate. Award honorees (l-r): Hassan Wilson, Robinson Ediguer, Remy Foluke, Lyanna Rios, Ghild Duru and Antonio Monteiro. The CIT Group's seven-year program, "CIT is Pro-Education" recently honored Sean Allen of Morris Plains with the Newark Academy Scholarship on June 17, 1999. The CIT Group's seven-year program, "CIT is Pro-Education" recently honored Darrell White and Taron Hance with CIT Inner-City Scholarship on June 17, 1999. Salguero graduated first in his class at Barringer High School as the Valedictorian. Foluke is included in the "Who's Who" listing and is a graduate of University High School. Duru graduated as Valedictorian from Weequahic High School. Monteiro graduated Valedictorian at East Side High School. Wilson ranked fourth in his senior class and maintained a 3.5 G.P.A. Rios is an honor student in excellent academic standings. She plans to attend Drew University.

Family Reunion Pix Wanted



Are you going to a family reunion? City News wants your candid photos of family and friends to publish in our end of the summer, Labor Day issue. Send them to City News, Family Reunion, P.O. Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060

Do you have local news to share?

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Barnstorming to a league of their own



Elizabeth resident, James "Bo" Wallace was a dynamic catcher for the Newark Eagles.

By Lucy Sanchez
Staff Writer

PISCATAWAY — A New Jersey museum honors the legacy African-American baseball greats decades after the "hall of fame" players were off of baseball fields due to the foul lines of segregation. The Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission of New Brunswick is featuring an exhibit entitled "Somebody to Cheer For: Black Professional Baseball and African American Family Life in New Jersey, 1860 - 1950."

The exhibit walks you through the horrors of discrimination and the soaring spirit that allowed the African-American community and athletes to strive forward. As you pass through black and white life-size portraits of baseball greats such as Jackie Robinson, Satchel Paige, John Henry "Pop" Lloyd, Effa Manley, Larry Doby and Monte Irvin you are transported back in time.

Alongside each biography of New Jersey's all-star athletes is the history of towns such as Newark, Jersey City, Trenton, and Atlantic City. The two-floor interactive exhibit focuses on key players, a team and the aura of the community during the Negro League Baseball era.

Mounted newspaper clippings pull you into the terminology of the sport and the love for the game. You can almost feel the vibrant echoes of the players voices which hinged in the spirit of the league. "...teams like the Kansas City Monarchs, the Pittsburgh Crawfords, the Homestead Grays, the Lincoln Giants.

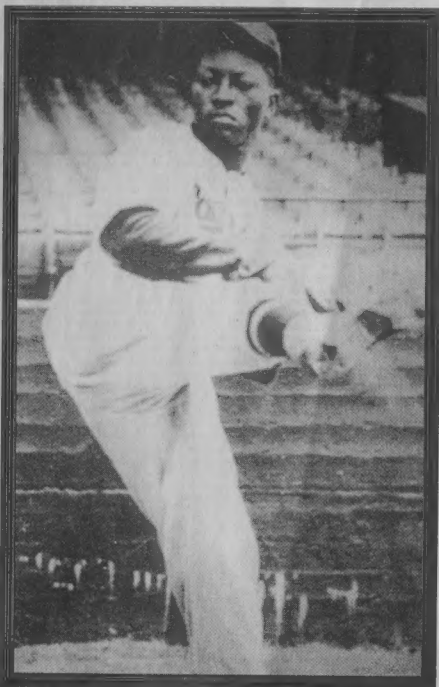
We would all make sure we would go down and see them play... Jackie Robinson was not on the scene... At that time, we had very few heroes... We wanted somebody to cheer for." — Monte Irvin, from a 1986 interview and the documentary "Before You Could Say Jackie Robinson," produced in 1992 by Thomas Guy and Lawrence Hogan.

In the beginning a universal love was established for the game, regardless of color. However, in 1857, African Americans were forced to barnstorm against local players or whoever was willing to play against them. Barnstorming is an old theatrical term used to describe how the traveling Negro League filled gaps in their schedules. They would sometimes play as many as 140 games to their 70 scheduled games.

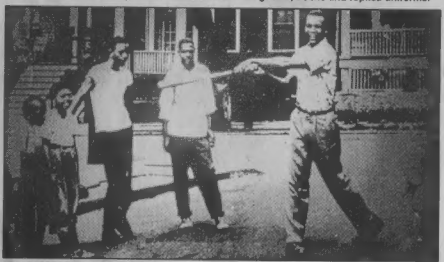
After practically living on buses, because hotels refused to let African Americans reside in their quarters, and the lightest complexioned athlete had to go into restaurants just a chance the opportunity of being served, and live on the line of segregation these men were true warriors of the sport.

In 1919 in Chicago, Andrew "Rube" Foster, a highly talented black pitcher and successful manager, began organizing a league that the Negro baseball player could call his own — the Negro National League. The Homestead Grays, Kansas City Monarchs, Pittsburgh Crawfords, Newark Eagles and New York Black Yankees struck homeruns in the hearts of their communities.

You can relive these stories and more as you delve into the treasures of the Middlesex County Museum.



This life-size portrait of a Newark Eagles pitcher is mounted in the interactive "locker room" of the Educational Activity Center which is filled with games, books and replica uniforms.



This photo of a game of stickball was provided from the Larry Doby Story, "Our World," May 1949.



The Newark Eagles was said to be one of the greatest teams in the leagues. They were often compared to the world champions Saint Louis Cardinals.

Somebody
TO CHEER FOR



Effa Manley was the "first lady" of the Negro National League. Her and her husband, Abe were co-owners of the Newark Eagles for 11 years.



Mamie Peanut Johnson was one of three women to play in the Negro National League. She played with the Indianapolis Clowns alongside Hammerin' Hank Aaron.

Jazz: America's Original Sound of Music

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

Imagine this, it's 7:00 a.m. you walk into Johnny's Jazz Market to pick-up the morning newspaper or to purchase a pound of slab bacon for a hearty breakfast, and you're greeted by the swinging sound of the Count from Red Bank - Basic that is featuring Frank West on sax - oh what a way to start your day. And for the local folks, who live on the Westside of Red Bank, this is how Ralph John Gatta, proprietor of this unusual market and even more notable jazz historian, wakes up the neighborhood.

Clad in a nostalgic white butcher's apron, Gatta sporting a mean salt and pepper goatee, delves out slices of country ham, homemade sausage and other down home delicacies, while other customers meander through this very compact grocery store stocked with everything from tuna to anti-freeze.

High atop the shelves fastened to the walls are photos and album covers of Miles Davis, Sonny Stitt, Max Roach, Billie Holiday, Stan Getz and Gerry Mulligan, Dave Brubeck, Julian "Cannonball" Adderly and a host of others. And in between the visage of these masters handwritten in magic-marker pen are such notable dates as their birthdays, as well as dates in memory of those who have since passed on to jazz heaven.

"I was a broken man when I couldn't see my musicians," said Gatta. "I had to bring the music to the store or I couldn't have made it. I think like a musician, I eat like a musician, I partied with all those cats."

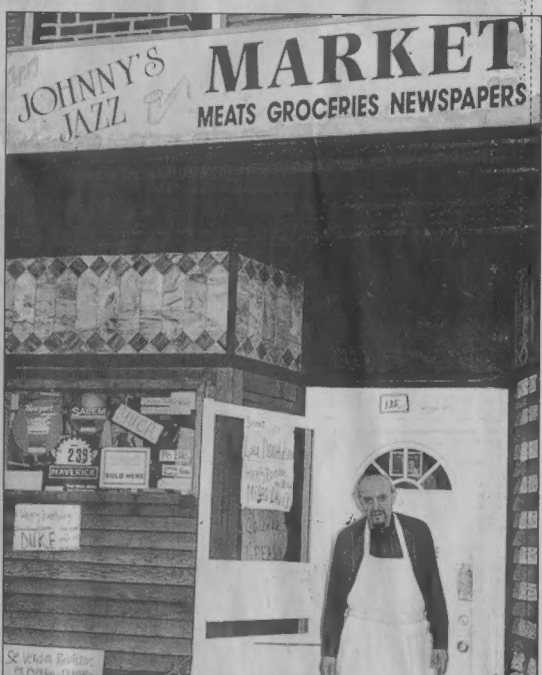
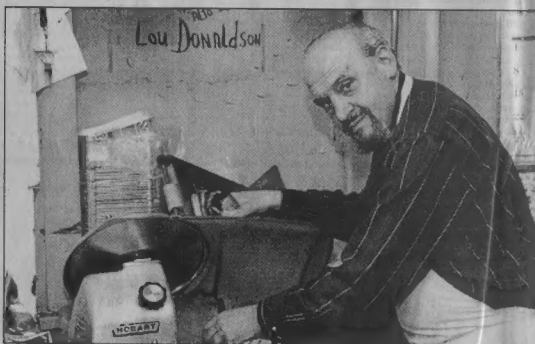
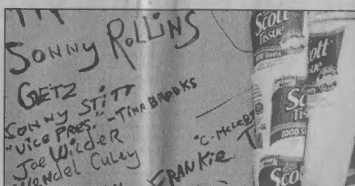
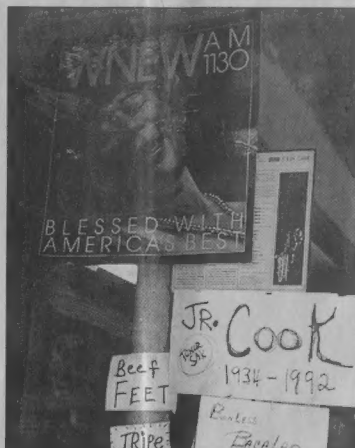
However, Gatta's partying days ended in 1963, when his father died. With his two brothers away in college, he was left to run the business his father started in 1944, which is located at 135 Shrewsbury Ave., as a means to support the family. So to compensate for such a loss - his love of the "highest level of music," Gatta created what he calls his own title "Birdland," a famous jazz club from back-in-the-day. He lived the music, he is the music, he feels what was in the cats' mind blowing the sound - he is Johnny Jazz and his recollection of dates and venues, where recordings by various artists were made is astounding.

"I'll never forget it, it was 1958 or '59 at Hanks Evergreen Club in Newark, she was with the Billy Taylor Trio. We had hors d'oeuvres and drinks," said Gatta. 61, remembering the time he met the Queen - Dinah Washington, who thought he was a musician. Every now and again between rifts you'll hear Gatta let out a howl: "Ooh is he swingin' or what whos?"

Referring to Duke Ellington as the greatest composer to ever live, Gatta instinctively rushes to his stereo cassette tape-deck stashed in a back room to put on a cut, which features Paul Gonsalves' famous 27 choruses recorded live at the Newport Jazz Festival in 1956.

"This is one of the most popular solo's ever," said Gatta. "Duke cut him loose and let him blow, whoa!"

From Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers, who Gatta is quick to tell you the great alto saxophone player Clifford Brown was one of the original Messengers, to Lou Donaldson dropping by occasionally to pay him a visit, you name it he knows intimately the genius of these legendary musicians. And whether you're a lover of "Straight Ahead" jazz or not, one thing for sure, once you walk out the door of Johnny's Jazz Market, you'll have a better appreciation for the music - that's his job.



Photos by Sean Guthrie

Jazz 88.3 names Awilda Rivera new host of Evening Jazz



NY/NJ - Metro Awilda Rivera, host of WBGO Jazz 88.3 FM's Latin Jazz Cruise, has been named host of Evening Jazz, Mondays through Fridays, 8:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.

Rivera, a longtime member of the WBGO family, worked her way up through the ranks with hard work, perseverance and talent.

Her involvement in the station began in 1982 as a volunteer in the Membership and Music departments.

She took advantage of her time at WBGO to develop skills in production and announcing. Her WBGO on-air debut was in 1992 as a fill-in announcer for the weekly program Latin Jazz Cruise.

In 1993 she went on to host her own show Sunday Morning Harmony and became host of

Latin Jazz Cruise in 1994 and Weekend Jazz After Hours in 1998.

In addition to hosting Evening Jazz, Rivera, a resident of Montclair, N.J., will continue to host Latin Jazz Cruise on Saturdays, 9:00 p.m.-midnight. Celebrating 20 years of broadcast, WBGO 88.3 FM serves the metropolitan area with mainstream jazz, blues and public affairs programming.

Licensed to Newark Public Radio, the award-winning, non-commercial station was founded in 1979.

WBGO Jazz 88.3 FM is one of eight organizations nationwide recently selected to receive the highly competitive Working Capital Fund award.

The program is designed to strengthen nationally and/or regionally-recognized, mid-

sized minority arts organizations.

During the four-year program, a core group consisting of WBGO staff and Board members will work with consultants to develop strategies to strengthen the connections between WBGO's artistic vision and managerial strengths. In turn, the Working Capital Fund will partner with WBGO through facilitated business planning, leadership development, peer interaction and learning, customized financial and management assistance, and targeted investments of up to \$350,000 in the form of working capital grants and \$250,000 in loans.

WBGO is supported by almost 13,000 members and enjoys 300,000 listeners each week. WBGO also cybercasts its broadcast at www.wbgo.org.

Where to Find "All That Jazz"

Crazy Rhythms located at 561 Bloomfield Ave., in Montclair specializes in mainstream jazz. In business since 1976, Crazy Rhythms prides itself on keeping stock on new releases and re-issues along with boxed sets. The store also has a large selection of vinyl collectibles in jazz and R&B. The store hours are Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 12 to 6 p.m.

Yogels Record Shop located at 125 Broad Street in Elizabeth is another place to pick-up some of those historical jazz pieces. It stocks re-issues while carrying mainstream jazz. Yogels has been at the Broad Street location since 1962. The store hours are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Heartbeat

City News B3

July 7 — July 13, 1999

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

EDISON — JFK Medical Center will give a tour of the hospital's maternity ward. Call (732) 632-1530 for information and time.

PLAINFIELD — Planned Parenthood of Greater Northern New Jersey will give free samples of vitamins to its customers. Call (908) 756-3798 for time and information.

JERSEY CITY — Jersey City Medical Center holds a support group meeting for newly diagnosed breast cancer patients at the hospital's conference room. 6 p.m. (201) 915-2000.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County & Plainfield Area holds a open blood drive at Our Lady's Casketshop. 9 p.m. (908) 756-6414.

THURSDAY, JULY 8

ROSELAND — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at the Roseland Fire Department. 3 p.m. 1-(800)-BLOOD-NJ.

FRIDAY, JULY 9

UNION — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at Union Hospital. 3 p.m. 1-(800)-BLOOD-NJ.

WAYNE — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at Wayne General Hospital. 3 p.m. 1-(800)-BLOOD-NJ.

SATURDAY, JULY 10

SOUTH AMBOY — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at the Masonic St. Stephen's Lodge. 9 a.m. 1-(800)-BLOOD-NJ.

SUNDAY, JULY 11

ELIZABETH — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at Blessed Sacrament Church. 8 a.m. 1-(800)-BLOOD-NJ.

MONDAY, JULY 12

PLAINFIELD — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at Mt. Pleasant Regional Medical Center. 4 p.m. 1-(800)-BLOOD-NJ.

TUESDAY, JULY 13

FAIRWOOD — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County & Plainfield holds an open blood drive at Fairwood Rescue Square. 3 p.m. (908) 756-6414.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

KEARNY — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at Kearny Board of Health. 2:30 p.m. 1-(800)-BLOOD-NJ.

THURSDAY, JULY 15

ORANGE — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at the Hospital Center of Orange. 9 a.m. 1-(800)-BLOOD-NJ.

FRIDAY, JULY 16

EAST BRUNSWICK — The 24th Annual New Jersey Al-Anon Alateen Convention at the Brunswick Hilton Hotel through July 18. A statewide convention open for members of Alcoholics Anonymous. Call (973) 353-3645 for time and information.

MONDAY, JULY 19

WEST ORANGE — The Children's Specialized Hospital hosts its Tenth Annual Golf Classic at the Montclair Golf Club in West Orange. Call (908) 331-5439 for information and time.

THURSDAY, JULY 22

PLAINFIELD — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County & Plainfield holds an open blood drive at the Greenbrook Manor. 4:30 p.m. (908) 756-6414.

FRIDAY, JULY 23

MONTCLAIR — The Eastern School of Acupuncture and Traditional Medicine holds an open house. 7 p.m. (973) 746-8717.

TUESDAY, JULY 27

EDISON — JFK Medical Center offers a class in early pregnancy. 7 p.m. (732) 331-7000.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

JERSEY CITY — Jersey City Medical Center offers a support group for breast cancer survivors at the hospital's conference room. 6 p.m. (201) 915-2273.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

EDISON — JFK Medical Center offers a course in vaginal birth after cesarean section. 7 p.m. (732) 632-1530.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

EDISON — JFK Medical Center offers a course in infant care for adoptive parents. 7 p.m. (732) 632-1530.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

EDISON — JFK Medical Center offers a course on grandparenting. 7 p.m. (732) 632-1530.

LaBelle and Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health tackle diabetes with new toll-free telephone hotline

NEW YORK — Beginning this week on television stations across the country, soul diva Patti LaBelle will reveal her secret to living a life worth singing about — she is diligent about controlling her diabetes. In an elegant public service announcement and a companion brochure, LaBelle challenges African Americans to get diagnosed, stay on their medication and take control of their diabetes.

The materials are part of a national African American Diabetes Action Project launched recently, sponsored by the Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health. The Institute has set up a toll-free hotline (800-729-3966) for people who want detailed information about diabetes. Callers will receive the free brochure, "Talking Diabetes With Patti LaBelle," which includes messages from the singer as well as recipes from her recently released



Patti LaBelle

cookbook, "LaBelle Cuisine: Recipes to Sing About." Diabetes isn't just a touch of sugar, sweet baby — diabetes is serious, says Ms. LaBelle. "It can cause loss of sight, loss of limb, and loss of life. With diabetes, you've got to control it, or it will control you."

Uncontrolled diabetes is the number one cause of blindness, kidney disease and amputations among African Americans. It is the fourth leading cause of death for African American women, and the seventh leading cause of death for African American men. Half of the nearly three million African Americans with diabetes do not even know they have the disease.

The African American Diabetes Action Project will roll out in major markets around the country, supported by community based education efforts by the Project's Community Action Partners. The Institute has developed a Community Empowerment Kit and video for local organizations that wish to conduct workshops and other education events.

The campaign is underwritten by an unrestricted educational grant from

the Bristol Myers Squibb Company.

The Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health was founded in 1992 by Arthur Ashe in response to his concerns about health care delivery in urban America. The Institute is a non-profit organization headquartered at the State University of New York Health Science Center at Brooklyn. Its health initiatives serve as role models for improved delivery of health care to inner-city urban residents.

The Community Action Partners include local chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, National Association of Health Services Executives, National Black Women's Health Project, National Coalition of 100 Black Women, National Urban League, and 100 Black Men of America.

Special Report III

Infectious diseases are biggest killers of children and young adults

WASHINGTON — The World Health Organization (WHO) has identified six infectious diseases as the world's biggest killers of children and young adults and called for renewed global efforts to combat them.

The killers — AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, measles, diphtheria, and acute respiratory infections, such as pneumonia — account for 90 percent of all deaths due to infectious diseases among people under 44 years of age, according to a WHO report.

Each of the six, which together caused over 11 million premature deaths last year, can be effectively contained at a cost of less than \$20 per victim, the WHO said.

Three of them — measles, diphtheria and AIDS — can be treated or prevented for under 35 cents per potential victim, according to the report. "Removing Obstacles to Healthy Development."

The vast majority of these deaths took place in poor countries where, according to the WHO, infectious diseases account for almost half of all deaths and a much higher percentage of the deaths of children under five years of age.

The 68-page report, described by the WHO as a "wake-up call" to spur renewed international action against the microbial threats also stresses that time

may be running out for halting their spread, particularly in the area of globalization.

"Because of drug resistance, increased travel and the emergence of new diseases, we may only have a limited time in which to make rapid progress," said the WHO's new director general, former Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Brundtland.

The WHO's first comprehensive report on infectious diseases, the study was hailed by Nils Daulaire, president of the Washington-based Global Health Council, as a "clear battle plan" in the fight against them.

"This report puts things together in an internally consistent way and lays out a clear battle plan that says, 'these are the six priorities, and this is what we are going to focus on,'" Daulaire said.

Of the 11 million premature deaths caused by infectious diseases last year, AIDS took the biggest single toll — 3.5 million, of which almost two million were of children living in poor countries. Yet, treatment of pneumonia — which requires taking antibiotics for five days — could cost as little as 15 cents, according to the report.

AIDS accounted for 2.3 million deaths last year, more than 1.5 million of which were young adults in developing countries. While no cure or vaccine is yet in sight, WHO notes that a year's

supply of condoms, which can prevent the spread of AIDS-causing HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, can be obtained for \$14.

Diarrheal diseases, which rival AIDS as the world's biggest child-killer, destroyed 2.2 million lives last year. Yet, it can be treated successfully by oral rehydration salts costing only 33 cents per cure.

Tuberculosis, a disease once thought to be under control, killed 1.5 million people last year, making it the largest single killer of adolescents and adults. Aside from AIDS, it is also the most expensive to treat — about \$20 of medication over six months for a special program called "Directly Observed Treatment, Short Course" (DOTS).

Malaria accounted for 1.3 million deaths last year, about two-thirds of which were of children. The disease, however, can be effectively prevented by insecticide-treated mosquito nets costing about \$10 each.

Measles killed some 900,000

youngsters last year but can be prevented through immunization campaigns costing 20 cents per dose.

All of these diseases do not just create personal tragedies for the individuals and families involved. The report argues that while good health is often a result of economic development and improved living standards, the opposite is also true: that the control of infectious diseases removes barriers to economic growth.

"Infectious diseases are causing half of all deaths among families and young laborers, farmers, supervisors and shop owners around the world," according to Brundtland. "Economic development goes hand in hand with good health."

Despite the health and economic toll caused by these six diseases, said the report, many developed and developing countries are still not using the most effective tools to combat them, and the donor community not providing adequate funding, said the report.

Doctors blast red meat study

WASHINGTON — A new study suggesting red meat lowers cholesterol levels as well as does white meat is receiving strong criticism from doctors at the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM).

"The doctors say both the new study, released Monday in the Archives of Internal Medicine, and past studies, such as a 1993 New England Journal of Medicine report, found that diets including modest amounts of red or white meat lower serum cholesterol levels only about 1 percent. The doctors say this is not enough to avert heart disease or stroke, the use of cholesterol lowering drugs."

Diets based on "lean" beef or chicken are "a little better than placebo," says Neal D. Barnard, MD, president of PCRM. "A better choice is to follow a vegetarian diet based on fruits, vegetables, legumes and whole grains." This diet has scientifically been shown to prevent and even reverse heart disease.

Dr. Barnard refers to the research of Dean Ornish, MD, who found that a vegetarian diet, combined with moderate exercise, stress reduction, and not smoking, actually reverses existing artery blockages, something "lean" or chicken diets failed to do. In 1998, the Journal of the American Medical Association reported that patients on Dr. Ornish's diet continue to improve each year, in contrast to patients on "lean meats" diets, who deteriorate slowly but surely.

Dr. Barnard's research has similarly found that eliminating animal products leads to a striking reduction in cholesterol levels. Among premenopausal women, the drop in LDL ("bad") cholesterol was 17 percent after just five weeks on the diet.

"The time may come when a doctor who prescribes beef or chicken to a heart patient, knowing they do not lower cholesterol levels very well or reverse heart disease finds malpractice lawyers hot on his or her trail," Dr. Barnard says.

Daytime sleepiness: How tired are you?

(NAPS) Are you tired of being tired? Well, you're not alone. In recent survey, conducted by the National Sleep Foundation, found the common experience of daytime sleepiness is a growing concern among both children and adults.

According to the NSF poll, 40 percent of adults say they are so sleepy during the day that it interferes with their daily activities.

Driving with our lights off Of critical concern is the effect of sleepiness on driving. Drowsy driving causes at least 100,000 crashes in the United States each year, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. In the responses to the NSF survey, 62 percent of adults reported driving while feeling drowsy.

Incredibly, according to 27 percent of respondents, they have dozed off at least once in the past year while driving.

"This trend in daytime sleepiness raises concerns among parents, health care professionals, educators, safety experts and employers," says Thomas Roth, Ph.D., the health and scientific advisor of the National Sleep Foundation.

"Lack of sleep and sleep problems can have serious, life-threatening consequences — not to mention a significant impact on productivity," he said.

Overtired teens

The NSF poll also found that daytime sleepiness is at an unexpectedly high rate among children at school.

According to parent reports, 60 percent of children under the age of 18 complained of feeling tired during the day, and 15 percent admitted to falling asleep at school.

Teenagers were even more likely to complain of being tired during the day than the younger children surveyed.

Get help in getting your ZZZs

About 70 percent of adults surveyed said they are aware that most sleep problems do not go away without treatment. In spite of that knowledge, only a small fraction actually see a doctor for advice or treatment.

According to the poll, only half of the people diagnosed with insomnia and 35 percent of those diagnosed with sleep apnea, have received treatment.

"This trend in daytime sleepiness should raise concerns among parents, health care professionals, educators, safety experts and employers," says Thomas Roth, Ph.D., the health and scientific advisor of the National Sleep Foundation.

Overall, the survey found that more than 62 percent of Americans experience problems sleeping a few nights a week or more.

Smokers and those who use alcohol as a sleep aid are more likely to experience symptoms of insomnia or wake frequently during the night.

The National Sleep Foundation is a nonprofit organization devoted to promoting public understanding of sleep and sleep disorders and to supporting sleep-related education, research and advocacy to improve public health and safety.

For more information on sleep, call 1-888-NSF-SLEEP.

Alternatively, or to take NSF's online sleep knowledge test, visit the foundation's Web site at www.sleepfoundation.org.

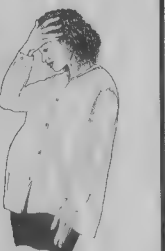


Reach the \$47 Million NJ African-American Health Consumer Market

in the City News HEARTBEAT section
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Counseling Services
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Health Insurance Providers
Health Care Workers' Training Programs



Source: Target Market Research Inc. 9/98

Published every Wednesday

City News takes a look at the health issues on the minds of African Americans in a special section titled

"Heartbeat."

Call 908-754-3400

Gladys Knight's inspirational CD

UNIVERSAL CITY, CA — Gladys Knight has inspired fans for decades, from her start in the church choir to her influential career with the Pips to today, as a world-renowned solo artist.

For the first time, Gladys Knight has recorded a collection of inspirational songs. Many Different Roads, expressing her faith in her own true style. Many Different Roads will be released by Many Roads/MCA Records on June 15.

Celebrating her 50th Anniversary in the world of music, Gladys Knight has captivated audiences since she began singing as a child at Atlanta's Mount Mariah Baptist Church. Rapidly rising to become one of music's brightest stars, Gladys made her professional recording debut at age 16 in 1960 with her group, Gladys Knight & The Pips, with the release of their self-titled album.

She made her Broadway debut in May, guest starring in the Lieber & Stoller revue Smokey Joe's Cafe from May 11 to May 22. In September, Gladys' accomplishments will be celebrated with an all-star salute to her life and music, to be televised to a national audience.

Many Different Roads is a personal triumph for Gladys Knight, whose faith and strength inspires a broad base of fans around the globe. The inspirational collection combines newly-written and traditional songs, representing the positive and uplifting spirit Gladys has always sustained. Tracks on "Many Different Roads" include "Mercy's Arms," "Open Up Your Eyes," "Precious Lord," "Everybody," "Mr. Love," "What Would I Do Without You," "He Never Will," "Jesus Love Is Like A River," "Good Morning Heavenly Father," "Many Different Roads," "With A Smile," "Saints Medley," and many more.

Will Smith's Overbrook Music bows with "Wild Wild West" soundtrack

LOS ANGELES — Overbrook Music, Will Smith and his partner James Lassiter, a new recording imprint distributed through Interscope Records, debuts this month with the star-studded soundtrack to this summer's anticipated blockbuster "Wild Wild West."

The title track and first single from the Wild Wild West Soundtrack, a "Smith tour de force" featuring the sensational R&B group Dru Hill and hip-hop pioneer Koolha the DJ. The single is already in demand at radio with major stations across the country scrambling to get the record on air.

A global pulse is added to the soundtrack by Enrique Iglesias, the best-selling Latin recording artist in the world, whose sizzling "Bailamos" will be the second single from the album.

The Wild Wild West Soundtrack features more exciting music created by the classic sound of Blackstreet, the celebrated, velvet-voiced songstress Faith Evans and, in the midst of the phenomenal hysteria around the hit "Slm Shady," another hot collaboration from Dr. Dre and Eminem.

"This soundtrack is incredibly hot, and it's the perfect introduction to what all about. We're tapping into stellar talent and putting out great music that spans many genres. We are proud to be working with Interscope and we are very happy with this first project. Watch for us though, because this is just the beginning," says John Dulakas, Executive Vice President at Overbrook Music.

The Wild Wild West Soundtrack also includes new music from Tatyana Ali, a special reunion of the seminal R&B group Guy, Lil' Bow Wow featuring Jermaine Dupri, and newcomers Breeze, Neutral, Kel Speenor and Tra-Knox.

DJ's Swing and King Tech release new CD

Internationally syndicated DJ's Sway and King Tech epitomize hip-hop culture.

Their newest project, That or That, is a direct reflection of their love for the music that has brought them from the streets to creators and hosts of the most listened to hip-hop radio show on the planet.

The popular duo, whose weekly syndicated broadcast The Wake Up Show reaches 115 million listeners via 7 major radio stations, isn't new to the record making business, the two have been staples on the hip-hop scene for more than a decade.

"We had a vision to put together a dream team from a rapper's perspective," Sway explains about "The Anthem." "To bring together a collaboration of artists who we like on one piece. It's just amazing to get old school heroes like Koolha Rap and KRS-One along side some of today's newest talent like RZA as Bobby Digital, Pharoshe Monch, Chino XL, Eminem, TQCH N9NE, Xzibit and Jaysi Felony. It is history in the making."

When The Wake Up Show was created in 1991, a new era in hip-hop radio unfolded as Sway & Tech introduced the sound of underground hip-hop to radio listeners.

"It's strictly for the preservation of hip-hop and it's the first of its kind," Sway says of why the mix album focuses on more authentic, underground hip-hop. For this matter, he and Tech are donating their personal proceeds from the album to charities such as KRS-One's school The Temple Of Hip Hop, and the Wake Up Show Scholarship.

"We think this is global music," Sway and Tech offer, "you can't localize your mentality. We always try to exceed those boundaries with The Wake Up Show."



"Budweiser Jammin' for Education" raises scholar dollars



Singer Shante (top) and R&B group SHK perform at the "Budweiser Jammin' for Education," a benefit concert for Urban Scholarship Program.

ST. LOUIS, MO — Anheuser-Busch Companies Inc., in partnership with certain local affiliate chapters of the Urban League, 100 Black Men, the NAACP and other community organizations, will present the first "Celebration of Black Music Television Spectacular" to benefit the Urban Scholarship Program.

The program was established to help urban students receive a college education.

The television spectacular is a component of the company's "Budweiser Jammin' for Education" initiative and features top entertainers in the respective genres of black music — R&B, jazz, blues, gospel and rap/hip hop. Celebrity hosts of the evening are Colin Powell, Vivica A. Fox, Gerold Levert and Sherman Moore.

Performers and special guests for the concert include Diahann Carroll, Chaka Khan, Kenny G, Sunbad, Silk, Herbie Hancock, Shante, 702, Kenny Lattimore, Patti Austin, The Gap Band, Sporty Thievs, Jonathan Slocum, James Ingram, Shirley Caesar, Yolanda Adams, and Keb' Mo'.

Produced by Byron Gloré of The Gloré Group, and taped recently in Los Angeles at the Luckmon Fine Arts Complex, the TV special salutes and celebrates Black music's impact on American pop culture.

This star-filled gathering brought together the entertainment world and leading minority community organization for one united purpose — to make it possible for deserving local African-American students to receive a college education.

As a fundraising vehicle for Budweiser Jammin' for Education, the Celebration of Black Music Television Program will raise money to assist local African-American college stu-

dents in rites across the country. The program was created to address the problem of limited scholarships are available to them.

"The Urban Scholarship Program is designed to provide more scholarships to more students to address this situation, and send students in our communities to the colleges of their choice," said Wayman F. Smith, III, vice president of Corporate Affairs for Anheuser-Busch Companies.

"For one united purpose — to make it possible for deserving local African-American students to receive a college education."

"What makes this program so special is that the money raised in the community helps students in the community," says Tommy Dortch, president of 100 Black Men of America.

The direct benefit is realized where it counts — in the community where the funds were raised.

"There are thousands of talented young people who are looking for the opportunity to better themselves by attending college," said John W. Mack, President of the Los Angeles Urban League.

"The 'Budweiser Jammin' for Education' campaign and Urban Scholarship Program will help African-American and other minority youth achieve that most important tool for success — education. Naturally, we're very excited about that."

Since 1979, the company has helped raise more than \$190 million for education efforts across the country.

Enter the Chamber with "Five Deadly Women"

NEW YORK — "The game is about to change." That's the word from the Five Deadly Women (5DW) in Sprite's latest entry in the Hip-Hop arena.

The new campaign boldly states, "It's time for the ladies to shine." By the story's end, Sprite trusts that all will recognize female emcees (MCs) for obeying their thirst and contributing deft lyrical techniques and styles to Hip-Hop.

Set to a back drop of futuristic, high tech, Asian-influenced imagery, Sprite's latest Hip-Hop plot has female artists wanting to "put rhymes" over the best musical tracks available to prove their capabilities to "floss on the mic." These intricate soundscapes, normally reserved for male MCs — are produced by super hot beat programmer Swizz Beatz from the Ruff Ryder label.

Hip-Hop artists featured in Sprite's SDW series include Eve from the Ruff Ryder label as the Blond Bee, Angie Martinez from the Terror Squad as the Fire Fly, Mia X of No Limit Records as the Lady Bug, Amil of Rock-a-Fella Records as the Praying Mantis, the alter ego old school MC Kool Keith as the territorial Dr. Uleah, producer Swizz as himself, and the everlasting female rapper Roxanne Shante as the Black Widow.

In the campaign's teaser, "Deadly Cometh," legendary lyricist and Hip Hop split personality Kool Keith is informed of the female MCs desire to rhyme over Swizz Beatz tracks which are recorded on a prized digital audio tape (DAT).

Being a Hip-Hop purist, Kool Keith scoffs at the female MCs desire to rock the best beats, taunting, "Female emcees? They don't have real MC skills!"

With those fighting words delivered, an MC battle royale is set in motion showcasing the ladies' distinctive cadences and styles.

The ladies chase Kool Keith through five interlocked television commercials, attacking him and his henchmen with a double dose of lyrical techniques and martial arts skills.

As they fight to win the DAT with Swizz Beatz tracks, the female MCs ask put to the test, more than holding their own in the competitive male-dominated art form.

Once the ladies win the DAT from Kool Keith in a test of wills, they produce rap incorporating the Sprite name with crafty hooks and rhythmic wordplay.



Sprite celebrates the style and expression of hip-hop in its new ad campaign. The slogan, "Five Deadly Women," showcases the hottest female rap acts in the business today. Picture here are: Eve (top), Angie Martinez (top right), Amil (middle), Mia X (bottom right) and Roxanne Shante (bottom left).

The creative concept is a clever way to demonstrate Hip-Hop's spirit to obey your thirst. The Five Deadly Women campaign was created by Reginald Jolley, creative director, Burrell Communications Group in Chicago and brought to life via karate movie like live action stunts and cinematography by award winning director, Antoine Fuqua.

The series features five action-packed 30 television spots with musical tracks produced by Swizz Beatz.

Isley Brothers' story told in three-CD box collection

VERONA — Essex County Park System presents Big Band Night featuring The Nelson Riddle Orchestra at Verona Park, part of Essex County Park System's Free Summer Concert Series 7:30 p.m. (973) 268-3500

To The Next Phase " There are also previously unreleased live versions (recorded at Bearsville Studios in 1980) of four earlier mid-'70s single releases, "Groove With You," "For The Love Of You," "Voyage To Atlantis" and "Don't Say Goodnight (It's Time For Love)."

Victor Marwelle	Frankie Negron	Oro Solida
Get ready to rumble! The Latino music craze that is taking the country by storm will make its presence felt on Saturday, July 17 at Arthur Ashe Stadium in Flushing Meadows Park as the Heineken "En Vivo" Series presents "Descarga Tropical" (Tropical Jam Session), featuring top Caribbean musicians in a hot night of salsa and Merengue. This is the first time that the <i>Caribbeños de la Sala</i> (The Gentlemen of Salsa) and El Mayimbe (The Best) Merengue star, Fernando Villalona, will be joined by a host of top-selling Latino artists for the most exciting concert of the summer. Ticket prices are \$20 and \$25, and advance purchase through 6/21/93 is required. For tickets, see Jewelers Corp. (800-3650). Gates open at 4:30 p.m., concert starts at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (212) 673-5683.		

Beginning in 1971 with their first Top Ten Single "You're a Big Girl Now," The Stylistics continued to exist at the top of the charts with 112 consecutive top ten soul hits.

Passageways

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1992

1997

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including "You Make Me Feel

Brand New," "Break Up T
Make Up," "You're My Every

thing," and their LP "The Best of the Stylistics" recently went Double-Platinum, which means

it sold over four million
albums

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The Stylistics, always giving lots of great hits, super harmony, style and heat of

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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE

CITY OF NEWARK

57 SUSSEX AVENUE
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07103

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Housing Authority of the City of Newark (HANA) invites the general public to attend a meeting to review and discuss the State W. Wright HOME Demolition Application. The meeting will be held at the Mt. Pleasant Methodist Baptist Church located at 100 Montgomery Street in Newark from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 13, 1999. Residents, community members, and others interested in the revitalization of the State Wright area are invited to attend.

ROBERT GRAM
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

\$30.40

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY COMPREHENSIVE SECURITY ASSESSMENT

The Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick is seeking proposals from qualified security consultants to conduct a comprehensive security assessment of the Authority's multi-family high rise, and senior development. An assessment is requested that includes an on-site inspection of each development to determine required man power and what physical layout changes or improvements are required to optimize security. The proposal must include an invoice cost for completing the assessment and an estimated cost of improvements. All proposals must include a STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS which include a list of similar projects completed with references and resumes of the principal individuals to be involved in the assessment.

Information packages will be available and can be picked up by all interested parties at the Housing Authority Offices 18 Van Dyke Avenue, New Brunswick, New Jersey. Proposals must be submitted in triplicate and received no later than FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1999, 1:00 p.m., prevailing time. The Housing Authority reserves the right to waive any informality in any proposal and to reject any and all proposals, and to accept such proposals and make such award as may be in the best interest of the Authority.

All questions after pickup or requests for additional information must be made VIA FAX to:

Mr. John Clarke, Chief of Staff, 724-214-6805

Karen Gancie, Executive Director

Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick

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PLAINFIELD

- Arlington Ave. & Woodbine Ave. at Post Office
- Clinton Ave. off W. Front St. @ Plaza Office
- E. Front St. & Terrill Rd. @ Dunkin' Donuts
- E. Fourth St. @ Plainfield Train Station
- Grove St. off of W. Front St. at "Church"
- Madison Ave. & W. 4th St. (Unemployment Office)
- North Ave. @ Plainfield Post Office
- Park Ave. & Crescent Ave. @ Library
- Park Ave. & Seventh St. by Scott's Drug Store
- Park Ave. & Fifth St. by Red Tower
- Rock Ave. off Myrtle St. at Mid Health Ctr.
- South Ave. & Terrill Rd. @ Drug Fair
- South Ave. @ Italian Village Plaza
- South Ave. & Lenox Ave. @ Burger King
- South Ave. @ Northwood Train Station
- South Ave. @ "The Home of Wal-Mart"
- W. Front St. @ White Star
- Watchung Ave. & E. Sixth St. @ YMCA
- Watchung Ave. & North Ave. @ P&H Post Office
- Watchung Ave. & E. 2nd St. @ Corner store
- Watchung Ave. & E. Front St. @ Bus Stop

NEWARK

- Raymond Blvd. @ Subway
- Bergen St. at Family Health Care Center
- Bergen St. at UMD Doctor's Office Center
- Franklin St. off Broad St. at Main Post Office
- 124 Halsey St. & Cedar St. at Unemployment Office
- Market St. & Washington St. at Park
- Market St. & Halsey St.
- Market St. & Alling St. at Bus Stop
- Market St. & University St. at Bus Stop
- MLK Blvd. & 13th St.
- Park Pl. at Travelodge Hotel
- Walnut St. off Broad St. (Immigration Bldg.)
- Washington Pl. at Washington Library
- University St. & New St. at University
- Frelinghuysen Ave. & Meeker Ave.
- Broad St. & Raymond Blvd. @ Subway

PATERSON

- Broadway St. at Dumont Donuts at Courthouse
- Broadway St. & Memorial Dr. at Passaic Cottage
- Broadway St. & Route 15 at Unemployment Office
- Broadway St. & Madison Ave. at McDonald's
- Broadway St. at "Last Corridor"
- Hill Plaza & Crosby Pl. at Post Office
- Market St. & Cus. St. @ McDonald's
- Market St. & Columbus Pl. at City Hall
- Market St. & Madison
- Market St. & Memorial Pl.
- London/Catfield Plaza

HACKENSACK

- Hudson St. at Administrative Office
- Main St. & Sussex St. at Court Plaza
- 184 Main St. off Railroad Track
- 241 Main St. & E. Salem St. at Bank
- 290 Main St. & Camden St. at Library
- State St. & Babette Pl. at Post Office
- 60 State St. & Sussex St. at Dept. of Labor

IRVINGTON

- Civic Square at City Hall
- Springfield Ave. & Lincoln Pl. Bus Stop
- Springfield Ave. & Civic Sq. Post Office
- Springfield Ave. & New St. Taxi
- Springfield Ave. & Clinton Ave. Terminal
- Springfield Ave. & Maple St. (Dunkin' Donuts)
- New Street

ORANGE

- Cleveland St. & Main St.
- Main St. (Post Office)
- No. Day St. & Main St.

EAST ORANGE

- Central Ave. & Maple St. at Dunkin' Donuts #1
- Central Ave. & S. Clinton Ave. at corner
- Central Ave. & Haled St. (Auto Parts store)
- Central Ave. & Haled St. (Dunkin' Donuts #2)
- Central Ave. & S. Harrison St.
- Central Ave. & Evergreen St.
- Main St. at Forman Mills Dept. store
- Main St. at Diner
- Main St. & Lincoln St. at DMV
- Main St. & N. Essex
- Main St. at No. Munn
- Main St. & Cleveland St.
- Main St. & S. Day St.
- East Orange Train Station
- Highland Ave. Train Station
- Train Station & City Hall

ELIZABETH

- Broad St. & W. Grand St. at Bus Stop
- Broad St. & W. Jersey St. at Bus Stop
- Broad St. & Dickerson St. at McDonald's
- Broad St. & Rahway Ave. at Court House
- Elmora Ave. & W. Grand Ave. at Dunkin' Donuts
- George St. & DeHart Pl. at Dunkin' Donuts
- N. Broad St. & Rl. 27 at Post Office
- Rahway Ave. at side of Court House
- Rahway Ave. at Cultural Ctr. & Bus Stop
- PathMark & West Grand St.
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JERSEY CITY

- Newark Ave. & Summit Ave. at Library
- Newark Ave. & Baldwin Ave.
- Newark Ave. at Justice Hall
- Path Station @ Harbor
- C. Columbus & Grove St.

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- Albany St. & Easton Ave. at Train Station
- Albany St. & Keelson St. at Pizza Hut
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PERSONNEL DIRECTOR
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Coordinates the implementation of workforce programs in accordance with applicable federal and state laws, regulations and department policies. Acts as liaison between the OSOQ and SETC as it relates to coordination of the Perkins Act and Workforce Investment Act. Participates in inter- and intra-departmental meetings, planning sessions and work groups in order to assist in priority setting, decision making, report writing, and federal plan development, developing or revising administrative code. Requirements: Master's degree in appropriate vocational/technical disciplines. Five years of professional experience which may include a combination of vocational and workforce development program planning and coordination at the federal, state or local level. Please forward resumes no later than July 16, 1999. Applications received after closing date will be considered if position is not filled.

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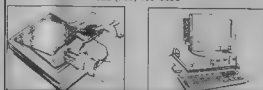
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Plainfield, NJ - Layout & graphic design of weekly & monthly newspaper. Must be very knowledgeable of layout design. proficient in Quark Express, Photoshop & Illustrator. Must have scanner, exp. for text & photos, editing skills, multi-task oriented, able to meet deadlines & have great organizational skills & have a solid work history. References req. Salary Commensurate with skills. Send or fax your resume to: City News Publishing Co., PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07061 call (908) 753-1036



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Plainfield, NJ - To assist production in scanning & editing type, includes some layout & telephone work. Must have great organizational & computer skills, to meet deadlines & multi-task oriented. Immediate opening. Salary Commensurate with skills. Send or fax your resume to: City News Publishing Co., PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07061 (908) 753-1036



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The Adidas All-American Basketball Camp returns to Teaneck

By Gregory Moore
Sports Editor

Every summer during the second week of July, Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck plays host to one of the major events in college basketball.



Gregory Moore

Although it may not be the NCAA tournament, every major college basketball coach in America with hopes of reaching the Final Four will journey to Teaneck in search of the talent to advance that goal. And one thing you will surely find at the Adidas ABCD Camp is talent. Considered by many to be the most prestigious summer basketball camp in the country, the Adidas ABCD camp is an invitation only event which annually attracts 200 of the best high school players from across the nation.

During the course of the week, players are divided into dozens of teams and compete against one another in a variety of long tournament of sorts. The games are the pressure is palpable since all of the games are played under the watchful eyes of hundreds of coaches, scouts, and talent evaluators. The Adidas camp is a virtual who's who of college basketball. For those of you who choose to attend, you will be by the number of nationally known coaches like Duke's Mike Krzyzewski, Arkansas's Nolan Richardson and Kentucky's Tubby Smith who will be there, intermittently scribbling comments onto notepads. And with the recent trend of prep players jumping directly to the NBA, there is always a healthy contingent of professional coaches in attendance too. In addition, the camp attracts hundreds of journalists, basketball junkies and various sports personalities all hoping to discover the stars of tomorrow, or perhaps the next Michael Jordan.

Camp organizer and basketball impresario Sonny Vaccaro has a knack for attracting best school boy players to his camp. During the summer of 1995, it was Vaccaro who convinced current Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant to attend his camp along with Peterson Othello star Tim Thomas, now with Milwaukee Bucks and Portland Trailblazers. Jermaine O'Neal that Summer was a particularly entertaining one, especially since fans were able to see two players, Bryant and O'Neal, who made the jump directly from high school to the NBA. The following summer, Vaccaro was the site of one of the most remarkable happenings in summer camp history. That summer, an unknown 6-8 player from Florida named Tracy McGrady, who had to lobby to secure an invitation, totally dominated the camp. In a very real sense the camp represented the coming out party for McGrady whose performance catapulted him from unknown player to NBA first round selection of the Toronto Raptors the following summer.

This summer, Vaccaro has once again managed to attract a very talented group of camp participants including several players who are rated among the 20 best high school players in the country. Most notable among them are, 6-6 Fresno (CA) guard/forward Dashaun Stevenson (No. 8), 6-10, 290 lb. Houston (TX) product Allen Ford (No. 6), 6-8 Philadelphia (PA) star Eddie Griffin (No. 9). Also slated to attend are 6-3 Georgia product Demetrius Smith (No. 14), 6-2 Chicago point guard Imani Sawyer (No. 16), and New Jersey's top rated player, 6-6 Seton Hall Prep forward Marcus Toney-EL. However, the player coming in with the best reputation will be Gerald Wallace, a 6-7 forward from Childersburgh H.S. (Ala.) is considered the best high school player in the country and could very well find himself in the NBA next year. Expect for Wallace to put on a memorable show.

The Adidas camp will take place July 6-10 at FDU's Rothman Center. The camp culminates in an All-star game featuring the week's top performers.

AVP's Dain Blanton flips the script on beach volleyball

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

BELMAR — Dain Blanton, yeah, Dain Blanton Ranked No. 5 on the AVP Tour, yeah, AVP tour. The only African American to play on the Association of Volleyball Professionals Tour. Yeah. The only African American to win a professional beach volleyball tournament, the Hermosa Beach Grand Slam, in '97 racking up \$300.00 for some fun in the sun, oh and yes a game of volleyball.

Volleyball. A non-traditional sport in black communities. Blanton, a Laguna Beach, CA, native is doing his best to flip the script on this by elevating beach volleyball to the ranks of traditional sports—basketball and football. Realistically, his mission is to give kids another opportunity to excel.

The tour, which recently made a stop at Belmar Beach on the Jersey Shore entertained the children belonging to Monmouth County's Boys and Girls Club in Asbury Park. For the second year, Blanton has conducted a clinic for the kids. His reason he wants African American kids to recognize one of their own in the ranks of a professional in a sport not associated with mainstream black life. Hopefully, one child will become intrigued by the difference, curious enough to want to play and strive to become good enough to make a living at it and yeah, while always having fun.

Always stressing education, Blanton made it clear to the kids that he received a scholarship to play volleyball in college and the importance of maintaining good grades. He received a bachelor's degree in public relations from Pepperdine University in 1994.

"I thought that it was fun and I learned how to play volleyball," said Elian Childers, 10, Asbury Park. "I enjoyed the experience and I hope Dain comes again next year."

On his return to the shore, Blanton seemed a lot more at ease with the kids and joined them at the Boys and Girls Club facility.

"It was exciting," said Carlita Shields, 9, Asbury Park. "Volleyball



is now my favorite sport. Dain was fun a very nice."

A feature on BET's Teen Summit, Blanton expressed the importance for him as a professional to encourage kids in urban communities to know there are options outside of the norm that can prove to be as passionately as valuable and quite lucrative, considering it involves the beach.

It's rumored that some of the Jersey Shore high schools are seriously considering recognizing volleyball as a major competitive sport.

"This is the second year of this program and our kids have been very responsive to Dain and the various coaches and volunteers that work with him," said Kevin McMillan executive director of the Boys and Girls Club. "Dain is a class act and we at the Boys and Girls Club of Monmouth County applaud him for his efforts of introducing inner-city kids to the non traditional sport of volleyball."



What's on tap?

LAWRENCEVILLE — On Harnum's Net Results Basketball Camp takes place at Rider University. The camp is offered to boys 8 to 18. Open Week 1 begins July 15-22. Open Week 2 runs from July 25-29. Call (609) 896-5076 for information.

WEST ORANGE/MADISON — Roger Kindel's & Bob Belcuore's The Fundamental Basketball School. The camp will be open for boys and girls ages 6-16. It takes place at Fairleigh Dickinson University on July 5-9, July 12-16 and July 26-30 at West Orange High School. Call (973) 984-8129 for information.

PISCATAWAY — Kevin Bannock Basketball Camp takes place at the Rutgers Athletic Center. There will be open camp weeks to boys in grades 5-12 on July 5-9 and July 25-29. Team camps for boys

in grades 8-12 run from August 1-5. Call (732) 445-4291 for information.

LAWRENCEVILLE — Rising Star Basketball Camp takes place at Rider University. The camp is open to girls ages 8-17. The open camps run from August 1-5 and team camps runs from August 6-8. Call (609) 896-5363 for information.

PLAINFIELD — The 3rd Annual George Brown "Gee-Gee" Brown Memorial Basketball Tournament takes place at the Madison Avenue Basketball Court from July 15-18. Call (908) 233-1446 for information and tickets.

WESTCHESTER, NY — The National Urban League presents its 1999 Golf Invitational at the Wykagyl Golf Club on October 4th.

Once Again...It's ON!!

The 3rd Annual George "Gee-Gee" Brown Memorial Basketball Tournament



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Sunday, July 18 at 1 p.m.

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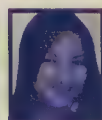


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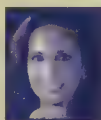
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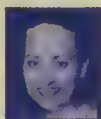
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Sings in church choirs, avid bowler, likes boating, reading, traveling. Married, 3 children.



**Morris Bracy,
Mobil Dealer.**

Avid golfer, enjoys white water rafting, scuba diving and snorkeling. Married, 2 children.



**Julia Jones,
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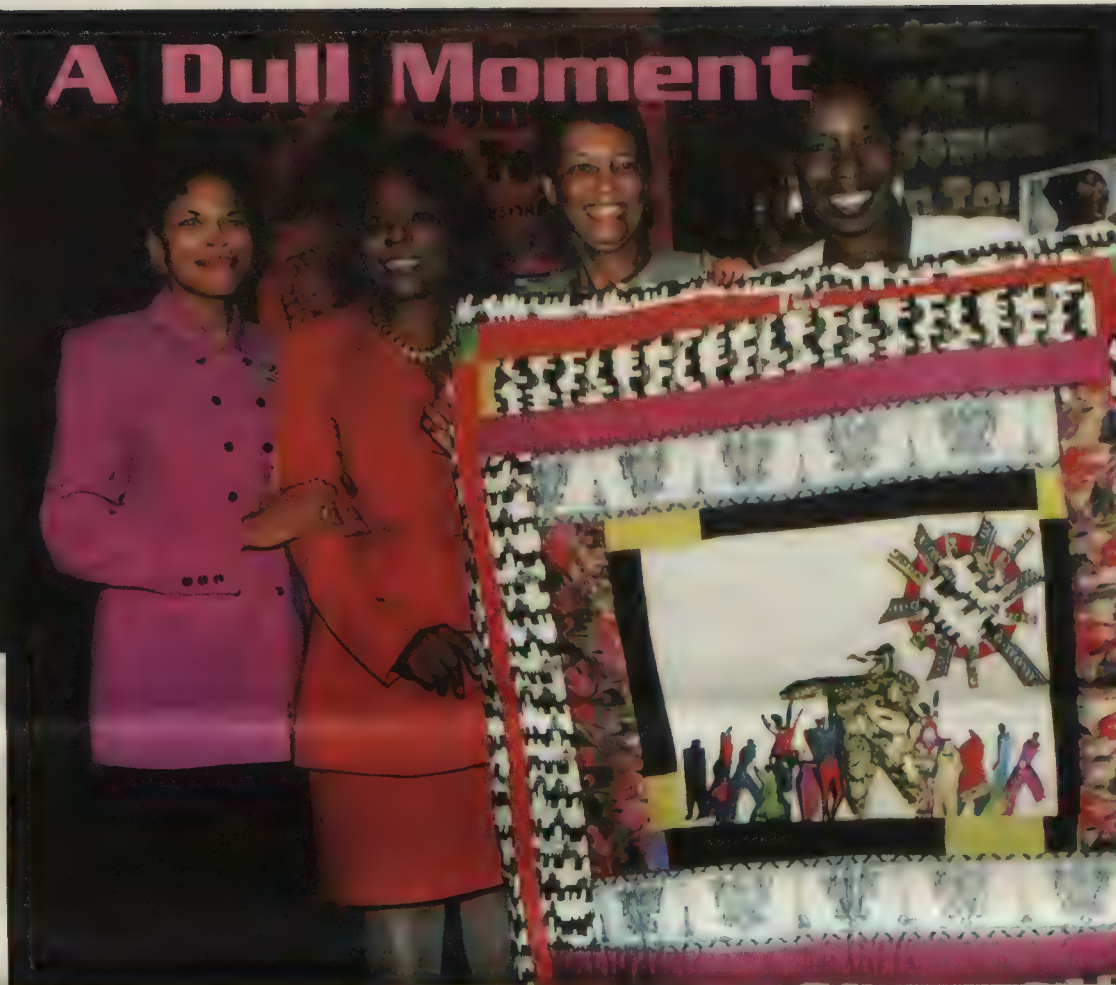
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Women

Profile of
Conference
Creator
Maria Dowd



Maria, left, with sponsor representatives and popular AAWOT keynote presenter Iyanla Vanzant. Quilt by Jacquelyn Mooney. Photo by Stan Johnson

FROM THE MOMENT THE CARIBBEAN CARNIVAL-inspired tall stilt dancers sway into the ballroom on Friday night to the soul-stirring Rites of Passage ceremony on Sunday, women know they are not attending just another conference of talking heads trolling the rubber chicken circuit.

Nodding off is not an option at African American Women on Tour (AAWOT), for there is never a dull moment at this multi-city, weekend reunion of sisterfriends that empowers, enlightens and entertains Black women.

Uninhibited conference goers sway their hips to African drummers at opening and closing ceremonies on Fridays and Sundays; eagerly cram into informative workshops on Saturdays and Sundays; and fill almost every seat in spacious ballrooms on all three days to hear such celebrity guest speakers as Gladys Knight, Maya Angelou and Oprah Show regular Iyanla Vanzant. And don't forget shopping for Afrocentric goods and services in the Village Marketplace.

Behind the scenes, making sure this little conference with the big agenda doesn't disappoint and is living up to its slogan as "the nation's foremost Black women's empowerment conference" is conference creator Maria Dowd.

Maria laughs easily at friends who tease her about having 22 jobs before she came to the realization that the corporate culture was not her cup of tea. "I admit I was a restless spirit," Maria says. She eventually set out on her own in 1989 and started her business, PROMOTrends, Inc., a marketing and

meeting management firm, which produces AAWOT.

Despite a series of professional and personal ups and downs, this 40-year old divorced mother of teenage daughters has managed to pull off—with the help of a dedicated crew—a quality conference for the past nine years.

As the conference approaches the new millennium and its 10-year anniversary, Maria reflects on the past, the present and the future:

You've been executive producer of AAWOT for nine years. What keeps you interested?

Having unyielding faith that I am doing what my Creator intended for me to do. Our work transforms the lives of Black women and has a positive snowball effect on the lives of people these women touch—that's what sustains me. Growing up within an extended family of entrepreneurs, the freedom to navigate my own vessel and direct my own prosperity plan are among the forces that drive me. While there are dues that are paid along the way, overall my and my children's quality of life have been greatly enhanced by my vocation. It helped tremendously when I was finally able—after six years—to adequately compensate myself for my work (smile).

How do you keep the conferences interesting year after year?

It's my responsibility to maintain a balance between the spiritual and reality-checking elements of our conferences. However, I do feel that women

who attend the conferences are inspired most by the spiritual aspect of the empowerment process. At AAWOT, the underlying message—no matter if you're attending a personal finance or career development workshop or listening to Maya Angelou on the main stage—is to recognize and gain control of the power, wisdom, talents and genius we were all born with.

We address the issues Black women face—layoffs, domestic violence, money management, health concerns, elder care, single parenting and so on. Then, I seek out speakers who will teach women how to maintain a positive mental attitude, get on path and direct energies into the things that are within their sphere of influence and control—but also teach how to let go (once and for all) of those things you cannot influence or control. Stir in the many facets of our Black cultures, avenues for creative expression and a crew who's fiercely passionate about our mission—and sisters come back for the "food for the soul" AAWOT offers.

How do you attract such big-name guest speakers?

The word is out. African American women who are at the top of their professions know we're doing the right thing and many times they reach out to us because they want to be a part of AAWOT. Workshop presenters, too, race for a spot at the conference. Often, once women hear these workshop presenters, they go back and encourage their HR departments or employee associations to contract their services.

(continued on page 4)

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1999 Mobil African American Women on Tour

AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN ON TOUR CONFERENCE TIME LINE

- 1991** First African American Women's Conference held in San Diego, CA
Among the featured speakers: *Essence* magazine editor-in-chief Susan Taylor
- 1992** Second African American Women's Conference held in San Diego, CA
Among the featured speakers: Motivational author/lecturer Iyanla Vanzant
- 1993** Third conference series held in Oakland, CA and Los Angeles, CA
Among the featured speakers: Best-selling Author Terry McMillan
- 1994** Fourth conference series held in Washington, DC and Oakland, CA
Among the featured speakers: Actress Ruby Dee
- 1995** Fifth conference series held in Houston, TX, Washington, DC, Atlanta, GA, St. Louis, MO and Los Angeles, CA
Among the featured speakers: Poet/author Maya Angelou; actresses Phylicia Rashad, Lynn Whitfield and Sheryl Lee Ralph
- 1996** Sixth conference series held in Oakland, CA, Houston, TX, Philadelphia, PA, Chicago, IL and Miami, FL
Among the featured speakers: Author Alice Walker; gospel singer CeCe Winans
- 1997** Seventh conference series held in Oakland, CA, Dallas, TX, Chicago, IL, Atlanta, GA and Philadelphia, PA
Among the featured speakers: Singer Gladys Knight; poet Nikki Giovanni, author J. California Cooper
- 1998** Eighth conference series held in Los Angeles, CA, Detroit, MI, Philadelphia, PA, New York, NY, Washington, DC and Atlanta, GA
Among the featured speakers: Singer Melba Moore; activist Attallah Shabazz
- 1999** Ninth conference series held in Los Angeles, CA, New York, NY, Philadelphia, PA, Chicago, IL, Washington, DC and Atlanta, GA
Among the featured speakers: Gospel vocalist Shirley Caesar and astronaut Dr. Mae Jemison

Profile (continued from page 3)

The conference also attracts some big-name sponsors, yet you say no to alcohol and tobacco sponsors. Why?

Alcohol and tobacco are mind-numbing substances and the African American community is the primary target for these products. This is a weekend of empowerment, of cleansing and healing the spirit. This is a chance for women to be around their sisters. There is some serious work that goes on here—networking and inner work. We keep things as wholesome as possible.

What advice would you give women who are considering starting their own businesses?

Commit your dreams to paper. In other words, develop a business plan. I didn't. As a result, time and money were wasted. When I finally did write it all down, things really started to fall into place.

Another word of advice—don't let the crazy makers in your life (and we all have them!) steer you off your path. We all have family and friends who love us, but it only takes one to sap the creative/entrepreneurial juice right out of you. Sometimes spouses tell you the timing is bad or see (and don't appreciate) the "sacrifices" they'll have to make supporting you—and there are sacrifices. Friends, too, may subconsciously try to dissuade you because of their own envy or insecurities. And because women are nurturing by nature, we may spend more time encouraging others than ourselves. I constantly challenge women to sort through the "noise" in their lives, to find some quiet time and see your way to your goal.

How do you answer critics who may say a conference geared toward African American women perpetuates racial separatism? What's your take on affirmative action?

First, I say, "pooh" on them and challenge those "enlightened" ones to examine THEIR environments—their workplaces, their neighborhoods, the schools where they send their children, their places of worship, their circle of friends and associates, their social "gathering holes"—and under what circumstances do they interact with other races. Racial separatism is a human force. We gravitate toward those who look, feel and think like us. AAWOT is a gathering place for learning, healing, networking, rejuvenation and transformation—it's very simply that.

As I see it, the problem comes when there are very high social, political and economic prices paid by non-whites due to that separatism, which then

forces our government to step in. Governments attempt to equalize some of those costs. Yet, in the scheme of things, the "remedies" don't usually constitute that big of a shift in "costs" for anyone—Black, white or otherwise—to get excited about.

For example, I am a benefactor of a small business development corporation established to provide economic assistance to minority- and women-owned businesses. The initial line of credit was \$40,000, which I was grateful for, but still a drop in the bucket compared to million-dollar-plus lines of credit, which—when you examine the numbers—white male business owners have the lion's share of access to.

The bottom line is—Blacks still have to make a way—politically, socially and economically with or without government intervention. THAT'S the role AAWOT plays. The conference educates and heavily promotes taking ownership of our destinies, homes, neighborhoods, careers, wealth, businesses, our children's education and so on.

Nodding off is not an option at African American Women on Tour.

How do you maintain a balanced work and personal life? What makes you tick? What makes you crazy?

Sometimes I think people in leadership roles are viewed as invincible superhumans whose entire hierarchy of needs has been satisfied. Things can and do fall wayside when you expend too much of your energy trying to satisfy others' needs and lose sight of your own.

I do make a concerted effort to handle expectations and demands with grace, tenacity and efficiency. I also try to be generous and kind-hearted. I don't profess to doing all the right things or having many of life's answers. I am a perpetual student striving to master these attributes.

I am a classic Aries—headstrong, impatient and no-nonsense. I have a very low tolerance for martyrs (a trait I inherited from my grandmother). Good, bad or maybe a little extreme, but one of my life's philosophies is, "If you don't care for the way I command, save yourself and me the melodrama and disembark at the next port."

To maintain my sense of self is to maintain control. I want to live and work in a peace-filled environment. When I feel a loss of that control or feel someone is draining my time and energy, I waste very little time cutting to the chase and making the necessary adjustments to my situation. I strive for satisfaction and peace of mind for me and the people I care about.

To aid in that balancing act, I try to work out at the gym three to four times a week, spend time with my soulmate and participate in my children's activities. And now I'm scheduling time to "go underground" as I call it—just simply make myself unreachable for a few days. No phones, faxes, pagers or people wanting or needing things from me. I'm discovering that it's better to grab the R&R under MY terms than to postpone it, then be forced to take it. I'd rather spend my well-deserved breaks on a tropical island than in a doctor's office. ☺

MARIA DOWD BIOGRAPHICAL PROFILE

BORN — Los Angeles, CA; raised in San Diego, CA
STUDIED FOR TWO YEARS — San Diego State University, majoring in Public Administration
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE — California State University
GRADUATE STUDY — Urban Planning, University of Southern California
INTERNSHIP — Los Angeles Urban League
BUSINESS OWNER — PROMOTrends, Inc., 1989; notable project — *Essence* magazine's 1990 Cover Model Search; later developed Black women's empowerment conference, AAWOT
TWO DAUGHTERS — Janelle, 17, and Lauren, 13
MOTTO — Everything in life is negotiable





The nation's foremost Black women's empowerment conference series.

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MISSION STATEMENT

African American Women on Tour provides a forum for uplifting, empowering and enhancing the quality of life for Black women, their families and communities through economic, intellectual and spiritual development.

ENTER TO WIN! AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN ON TOUR DREAM JOURNEYS GETAWAYS SWEEPSTAKES

Four lucky winners will win trip giveaways and gasoline for a year.



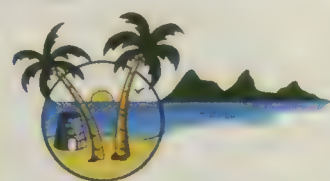
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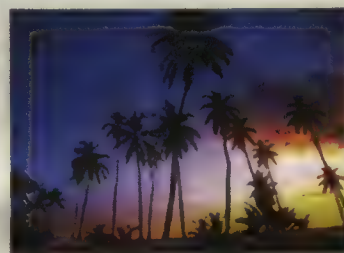
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SWEEPSTAKES OFFICIAL RULES

PARTICIPATION LIMITED TO PERSONS 21 AND OLDER. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.

1. **HERE'S HOW TO ENTER:** On an official entry form only print your name, home address (including ZIP code), home phone number, your date of birth and today's date. You have the option to answer all questions. IMPORTANT! In order to be eligible for a prize, you must sign your name in the spaces provided on the entry form.

2. **WHERE TO MAIL YOUR COMPLETED ENTRY FORM:** Mail your completed entry form in a hand addressed #10 (business-sized) envelope, with a first class postage stamp affixed to AAWOT "Dream Journeys Getaways" Sweepstakes. Attn: PROMOTrends, Inc., P.O. Box 232274, San Diego, CA 92193-2274. Limit one entry per mailing envelope. Entries must be received by 6/30/99.

3. All entries must be on official entry forms only. No mechanical reproductions or facsimiles of entries allowed. For each additional sweepstakes entry form and copy of the rules you would like to receive, send a separate, self-addressed, stamped #10 (business-sized) envelope to AAWOT Entry Requests, Attn: PROMOTrends, Inc., P.O. Box 232274, San Diego, CA 92193-2274. In addition, an entry form may be obtained by calling 1.800.560.2298. Limit one request per telephone inquiry. Limit one request per outer mailing envelope. Entry form requests must be received by 6/15/99.

GENERAL RULES: Sweepstakes open to legal residents of the U.S. who are 21 years of age or older at time of entry. All entries must be mailed via U.S. Postal Service first class mail (no taxes, hand deliveries, e-mail, express, registered or certified mail accepted). PROMOTrends, Inc. is not responsible for lost, late, illegible, incomplete, misdirected, mutilated mail or postage due mailed entries. All entries become the exclusive property of PROMOTrends, Inc. (Sponsor) and will not be returned. Employees of PROMOTrends, Inc. dba AAWOT, its affiliates, subsidiaries, advertising and promotion agencies, immediate families and household members of each are not eligible. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW. All federal, state and local laws and regulations apply and are the responsibility of the winners. Prize winners will be determined by a random drawing from all eligible entries received. The drawing will be held on or about July 15, 1999 from among all eligible entries. The odds of winning depend upon the number of eligible entries received. Approximate number of entries available: 1,000,000. Potential winner will be required to sign and return an Affidavit of Eligibility, Release of Liability/Publisher Release/Prize Acceptance Form within 14 days of attempted notification. Noncompliance with this condition may result in disqualification and the selection of an alternate winner. Any prize notification returned to Sponsor as undeliverable will result in forfeiture of prize and an alternate winner will be selected. Winners will be notified by mail. Travel is subject to availability and certain blackout dates may apply. Travelers must possess required travel documents (e.g., valid photo ID/valid proof of citizenship/valid passport, etc.). Sponsor is not responsible if winner and/or guest is denied entry into any country. Limit one prize per household or family. Winners are responsible for all taxes on prizes. No transfer or substitution or cash redemption of prize permitted, except provided herein. Sponsor reserves the right to provide a cash alternative at its sole discretion should featured prize become unavailable. Acceptance of prize offered constitutes permission to use winner's name and/or likeness for advertising and promotional purposes without further notice and consent.

penation, unless prohibited by law. By claiming a prize, winners agree that PROMOTrends, Inc. dba African American Women on Tour, its respective affiliates, employees, agents and directors shall have no liability for any injuries, losses or damages of any kind (including death) resulting from acceptance, possession or use of any prize or participation in any prize-related activities. The trademarks that identify the various prizes are the property of the respective trademark owners who are not sponsors or endorses of this promotion.

PRIZES AND APPROXIMATE RETAIL VALUE

A total of four (4) prizes will be awarded as follows:
1) A five day, four night trip for a family of four to Walt Disney World in Buena Vista, FL, including round trip coach airfare from major airport nearest winner's home to Orlando airport, four night double or quad occupancy accommodations, airport transportation to/from hotel, admission for four to all four Disney Theme Parks and 5250 Disney Dollars which can be used for anything that U.S. currency is used for on Disney Property. Exact travel dates of arrangements subject to availability. All travel must be completed by 12/15/99. Actual value of prize depends on point of departure and airfare fluctuations. Guest accompanying trip winners must sign and return a liability/publicity release at least 14 days prior to departure. All meals, taxes, gratuities and all other expenses not specified herein are the responsibility of the winner. If winner's guest is a minor, he/she must be accompanied by parent or legal guardian, who must sign and return all required documents. Approximate retail value \$3,500.00.

2) A six day/five night trip to St. Kitts West Indies for two, double occupancy, including meals at the Frigate Bay Resort, includes round trip coach airfare on American Airlines for two from major airport nearest winner's home to St. Kitts, island tour and round trip airport transfers to/from hotel. Exact travel dates of arrangements subject to availability. All travel must be completed by 12/15/99. Actual value of prize depends on point of departure and airfare fluctuations. Guest accompanying trip winners must sign and return a liability/publicity release at least 14 days prior to departure. All meals, taxes, gratuities and all other expenses not specified herein are the responsibility of the winner. If winner's guest is a minor, he/she must be accompanied by parent or legal guardian, who must sign and return all required documents. Approximate retail value \$3,700.00.

3) Round trip coach air transportation for two (2) to any American Airlines and/or American Eagle destination in the contiguous 48 U.S. or the Caribbean. Hotel is not included. Exact travel dates of arrangements subject to availability. All travel must be completed by 12/15/99. Actual value of prize depends on point of departure and airfare fluctuations. Guest accompanying trip winners must sign and return a liability/publicity release at least 14 days prior to departure. All meals, taxes, gratuities and all other expenses not specified herein are the responsibility of the winner. If winner's guest is a minor, he/she must be accompanied by parent or legal guardian, who must sign and return all required documents. Approximate prize value \$1,800.00.

4) 1-year's supply of free Mobil gasoline. Prize value is \$500.

Total approximate retail value \$9,500.00
All prizes will be awarded.

For the names of winners, available after 9/15/99, send a separate, self-addressed, stamped, #10 envelope to AAWOT "Dream Journeys Getaways" Winners, P.O. Box 232274, San Diego, CA 92193-2274.

ENTER TO WIN!

The African American Women on Tour "Dream Journeys Getaways" Sweepstakes

Fill out this form entirely and mail in an envelope to: AAWOT "Dream Journeys Getaways" Sweepstakes, Attn: PromoTrends, Inc., P.O. Box 232274, San Diego, CA 92193-2274.

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Female ☐ Male

Name

Address

Apt.

City

State

ZIP

Phone ()

Have you ever attended an AAWOT conference? ☐ Yes ☐ No.

If yes, which year(s):

By entering this sweepstakes and signing below, I certify that I am 21 years of age or older. I have read and understood the rules.

OPTIONAL: I am also willing to receive AAWOT promotional literature and registration brochures in the mail, subject to applicable federal and state laws.

☐ Please add me to your mailing list.

Signature X:
(required)

Date of Birth: / /

Today's Date: / /

Entry limited to persons 21 years of age or older.

Entries must be received by 6/30/99.

Pathway to Prosperity

By Glinda Bridgforth

ARE YOU READY TO HAVE ABUNDANCE AND PROSPERITY IN YOUR LIFE? GREAT! START BY EMBRACING A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO MONEY MANAGEMENT WHICH INTEGRATES EMOTIONAL, PRACTICAL, AND SPIRITUAL ELEMENTS. USE THE FOLLOWING CHECKLIST TO HELP YOU BEGIN MAKING PEACE WITH YOUR MONEY WHICH ULTIMATELY LEADS TO HAVING PEACE IN YOUR LIFE:



- **COMPLETE THE EMOTIONAL MONEY INVENTORY.** Determine your attitudes and belief systems about money. Examine how money was handled as you were growing up and how this shaped your adult spending patterns.
- **CLARIFY CURRENT FINANCIAL STATUS.** Access your assets and liabilities. Know what you own, what you owe and make sure your checkbook is balanced.
- **DEVELOP A SPENDING PLAN MONTHLY.** Be pro-active by developing a spending plan or budget. Write a detailed list of expenses and subtract that from your net income to determine cash flow.
- **TRACK AND ANALYZE YOUR SPENDING PATTERNS.**
- **STOP INCREASING DEBT.** Put the credit cards away and incorporate all your needs into the Spending Plan that is supported by your monthly income. Contact creditors and inform them if you are having financial difficulties. Negotiate lower payments.
- **BUILD A SAVINGS CUSHION.** The rule of thumb for saving is 10 percent of your gross income, but it's the consistency that's important. Start by allocating a small amount regularly to savings, and increase it over time.
- **INCREASE YOUR INCOME.** Ask for a raise, look for temporary part-time work or consider changing careers, if necessary. Work with passion and fulfillment.
- **DEVELOP A RETIREMENT AND INVESTMENT PROGRAM.** Enroll in an employee savings program, open an IRA or mutual fund with monthly automatic contributions.
- **SET PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL GOALS.** It is important to have balance in your life. Set goals in each category and then two action steps to reach each goal. Do this for long- and short-term goals.
- **BEGIN A SPIRITUAL PROGRAM.** Acknowledge that there is a power greater than yourself that guides and directs you. Recognize there is something to be gained from all your experiences, good and bad. Use meditation, affirmation and visualization and re-program yourself to embrace prosperity and abundance.
- **GET SUPPORT.** Seek help from professionals, such as financial counselors, consumer credit counselors, financial planners and investment advisors. Consider joining Debtors Anonymous or seek help from a therapist, motivational tapes or self-help books. Associate only with friends who are encouraging and supportive of your prosperity plan.

Glinda Bridgforth, President and CEO of Bridgforth Financial Management Group in Oakland, CA (www.bridgforthfin.com), is author of *The Basic Money Management Workbook*, \$20.00. To order on-line visit www.barnesandnoble.com or call (510) 430-1820.

African American Investors: Taking Initiative and Staking the Future

AFRICAN AMERICANS ARE SAVING AND INVESTING significantly less than their white counterparts. That is the principal finding of a 1999 survey conducted by Yankelovich Partners, an independent group, on behalf of Ariel Mutual Funds and Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.* Ariel conducted its first survey of African American investors in 1996 and has since co-sponsored with Schwab to conduct the survey annually.

Although the surveys of the past three years are not identical, they can be used to analyze general trends and shifts in attitude. Comparison of the surveys suggest that African American preference for real estate is waning, with agreement that "real estate is the best investment" down from 48 percent in 1998 to 39 percent in 1999. African American endorsement of "stocks as the best investment" remained at an even 32 percent.

Compared to whites, African Americans continue to report lower dollar amounts of monthly savings and investments. However, the span of surveys indicate that African Americans are slowly becoming more aggressive investors. Fifty-seven percent of African Americans polled described themselves as somewhat or "very conservative," a downward trend from last year's 63 percent. Moderate risk tolerance among African Americans surveyed climbed from 36 percent to 42 percent.

African Americans are becoming more aggressive investors.

The whites surveyed stated a slightly lower tolerance of risk than previous years, from 46 percent to 43 percent. In the past, African American investors have been more cautious than their white counterparts. However, the 1999 survey reports almost equal levels of risk tolerance between African American and white investors.

In terms of investing, African Americans are an enormous, under-served market. Seventy-three percent of African Americans surveyed said they preferred to work with a financial services professional when investing, dwarfing the 62 percent of whites who agreed. The lingering question is why these eager investors have not sought the necessary assistance.

The resounding theme is lack of trust and experience. The African Americans surveyed conveyed a sentiment of suspicion regarding both the stock market and financial services professionals. Forty-nine percent of African Americans surveyed agreed with the statement, "Stockbrokers and financial advisors are more interested in making money for themselves than they are in giving me good advice," compared to only 37 percent of their white counterparts. By a margin of 56 percent to 35 percent, the African Americans sample agreed that "investing in stocks is just like gambling." Despite this discrepancy, African Americans and whites alike agreed that

"investing in the stock market is a great way to make money" at 73 percent and 71 percent respectively.

Gender highlights of the 1999 survey reveal a general hierarchy concerning investment knowledge and experience. The continuum begins with African American women as the least experienced and least knowledgeable investors, followed by African American men, followed by white women, capped off with white men as the most knowledgeable and most experienced investors.

However, gender highlights also reveal that African American women are working to close the gap. African American women are more likely than white women to have watched TV programs about investing (66 percent versus 62 percent) or read books about investing (56 percent vs. 42 percent.) Likewise, more African American women than white women say that they enjoy managing their financial affairs (61 percent versus 49 percent.) Men, regardless of race, report higher percentages for all of the above with the exception of 51 percent of white men who read books about investing.

Ariel Mutual Funds and Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. agree that education is the key to improving African Americans' investing habits. Michael DeFlorimonte, Vice President of Specialized Markets at Charles Schwab, notes, "Education is the key that opens the door to opportunity, participation and

prosperity. The financial workshops that we are sponsoring across the country address the hunger for education that exists in the African American community. In addition to fulfilling this need, we also are focused on building long-term relationships within the community. There is no short cut to building trust nor any substitute for time and commitment."

Melody Hobson, Senior Vice President at Ariel Mutual Funds, says, "Our mission is to make the stock market a subject of dinner conversation at every Black home in America." The recent survey indicates that Hobson's goal is in sight, albeit distant. Please pass the potatoes.

*The conclusions of the January 1999 survey are based on data resulting from 1,629 interviews of persons with household incomes exceeding \$50,000 per year. Eight-hundred-sixteen whites and 813 African Americans were interviewed. The sampling error for a unit this size is +/- 3.4 percent. Ariel Mutual Funds is a Chicago-based investment firm managing over \$3 billion in assets for individuals and institutions. Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. (Member SIPC/NYSE), based in San Francisco, CA, is one of the nation's largest financial services firms, with over 5.4 million active investor accounts and more than \$521 billion in assets. These entities are not affiliated. ☺



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The 1999 Mobil African American Women on Tour



The Nation's Foremost
Black Women's
Empowerment Conference

For women of color who need
to recharge and take charge!

Friday Saturday Sunday



Attallah Shabazz
Social Activist



Deshaun Robinson
Personality



Dr. M. Jacqueline Eades
Former US Surgeon General

NEW YORK, NY
July 9-11
Brooklyn Marriott



Catherine Cooper
Author, Playwright



Maya Angelou
Author, Poet



Terri McAloud
Author

PHILADELPHIA, PA
July 23-25
Adam's Mark



Cathy Hughes
Founder, Owner, Radio One



Nikki Giovanni
Poet



Patricia Russell
McCloud
Dancer

CHICAGO, IL
July 30 - August 1
Hyatt McCormick
Place South



Daphne Maxwell
Girl
Actress



Victoria Beckham
Actress



Dr. Mae C. Jensen
Astronaut

WASHINGTON, D.C.
August 20-22
Omni Shoreham



Rev. Bernice King
Minister



Sherry Ann Smith
Actress, Theater



Sandra C. James
 Gospel Singer

ATLANTA, GA
August 27-29
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SPECIAL EVENTS & HIGHLIGHTS

Procurement Opportunities for Minority- And Women-Owned Businesses

Friday, 1 pm - 3 pm
Offers guidelines and strategies for establishing lucrative business relationships with companies

The
Longaberger
Company

Dream Journeys Café

Friday, 2 pm - 4:30 pm Saturday, 7 pm - 11 pm
The Dream Journeys Café is a place for relaxation, networking and creative expression. Enjoy live entertainment, impromptu performances, author appearances and signings. You're welcome to share your prose, poetry, song and travel adventures on the open mic.

emerge

Workforce 2000: A Career Forum

Friday, 3 pm - 5 pm
What role will Black women play in corporate America in the new millennium? Bring your resume and join in this panel discussion and one-on-one exchange with some of America's leading trendsetters in diversity, training and Workforce 2000 initiatives.

Sister SpeakOut On Preventive Health

Saturday, 11:45 pm - 1:15 pm
A panel discussion presented by Sister-experts in the fields of medicine and holistic health management. Advice on pro-active lifestyle choices to ensure longer, more healthful lives.

Johnson & Johnson Kellogg's

MERCK
heart & soul

Sister SpeakOut On Caring for our Elders and Terminally Ill Family

Sunday, 11:45 pm - 1 pm
Just how do we emotionally and financially prepare for aging and terminally ill family members? A team of experts in estate planning, medical care, hospice and social services will offer valuable advice to ensure a graceful and dignified transition.

The Healthy Caregiver

MAHOGANY
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AAWOT Dream Journeys Scrap Book

An expression of our journeys traveled and dreams fulfilled. Each page portrays the passions and loving spirits of all who embrace the essence of the AAWOT experience. You're invited to contribute to this keepsake book, custom-designed by Carol Smith. All artistic expressions are welcome, such as an original poem, pressed flower from your garden, water color painting, pencil sketch, photo graph or collage of mementos. All pieces, 4" x 4" OR 2" x 8" paper or fabric, will be glued into the scrap book. At the Closing Luncheon, a Dream Journeys scrap book will be raffled off.

Mobil Small Business Institute

Saturday & Sunday, 8:30 am - 11:30 am
Provides hands-on business plan development to start up, finance, grow and expand your business. Participants will be coached through a series of workshops on business basics, financial management and strategic planning by a team of certified experts.

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JCPenney® "Fashion Influences: Enhancing your Personal Style"

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With Carletta Kyles, Model and Image Consultant, presenting "The Modern Wardrobe & 'Must-Haves' of the Season." A drawing will be held after each seminar for an outfit from JCPenney's Fashion Influences Catalog.

"Taking the Plunge - Investing 101"

Saturday, 10 am - 11:30 am
Covers the basics for beginner/intermediate investors, including terminology and strategies.

ARIEL MUTUAL FUNDS

"The Savvy Investor"

Sunday, 10 am - 11:30 am
Offers advice to intermediate/advanced investors on broadening and refining their investment knowledge and strategies.



Charles Schwab

"Living with Love...In Love" Relationships Forum

Saturday, 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Two of America's leading relationship experts, Drs. Ronn Elmore and Brenda Wade, will co-moderate this forum on nourishing healthy love relationships.

Don't let any of our five great conferences slip
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New York

Session I New York Saturday, July 10 - 8-9:30 am

NEW-CAR "Strategies for Career Success—Getting From Where You Are to Where You Want to Be"

NEW-MEM "Mirrors and Memories: On Mother-Daughter Relationships"

NEW-TOO "Too Blessed to be Stressed"

NEW-SIS "Sister Power: Seven Characteristics of Powerful Black Women in Corporate America"

NEW-LOV "Love, Lust & Lies: One Man's Perspective on Infidelity"

NEW-QSB "The Quintessential Small Business Institute Part I: Business Basics and Plan Outline"

NEW-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session II New York Saturday, July 10 - 10-11:30 am

NEW-JCP1 "Fashion Influences: Enhancing your Personal Style" With Carletta Kyles. Presented by JCPenney

NEW-101 "Taking the Plunge - Investing 101" Presented by Ariel Mutual Funds, Charles Schwab & Co. and Black Enterprise

NEW-EMP "Empowering Black Women in Corporate America"

NEW-LIV "How to Live a Stress-Free Balanced Life"

NEW-EST "Self-Esteem, Spirit and Success: Mo' Betta Motivation"

NEW-PSB "The Profitable Small Business Institute Part II: Business Finances"

NEW-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session III New York Sunday, July 11 - 8-9:30am

NEW-HET "Het Heru Healing Dance Circle"

NEW-POW "Empowering your Life at Home and in the Workplace"

NEW-CHA "Mastering Change: Navigating Your Career Through Transition & Change"

NEW-YOU "Transforming our Youth into Extraordinary People"

NEW-SSB "The Successful Small Business Institute Part III: Long Range & Strategic Planning"

NEW-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session IV New York Sunday, July 11 - 10-11:30am

NEW-JCP2 "Fashion Influences: Enhancing your Personal Style" With Carletta Kyles. Presented by JCPenney

NEW-SAV "The Savvy Investor: Refining your Investment Strategies" Presented by Ariel Mutual Funds, Charles Schwab & Co. and Black Enterprise

NEW-WRI "Writefully Yours" Learn "what makes you tick" through handwriting analysis.

NEW-ATT "Steppin' Out With Attitude: Sister, Sell your Dream"

NEW-AUT "Author your Life: A Window to Personal Power Through Creativity"

NEW-SBI "Small Business Institute Part IV: One-on-One Consultations"

NEW-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Philadelphia

Session I Philadelphia Saturday, July 24 - 8-9:30am

PHI-WELL "On Path to Wellness Understanding the Exercise Equation"

PHI-EMP "Empowering your Life at Home and in the Workplace"

PHI-DAN "Dancing with Yesterday's Shadows: Gaining Wisdom from our Experiences"

PHI-GIR "Just Between Girlfriends: Celebrating our Circle of Sistahs"

PHI-QSB "The Quintessential Small Business Institute Part I: Business Basics and Plan Outline"

PHI-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session II Philadelphia Saturday, July 24 - 10-11:30am

PHI-JCP1 "Fashion Influences: Enhancing your Personal Style" With Carletta Kyles. Presented by JCPenney

PHI-101 "Taking the Plunge - Investing 101" Presented by Ariel Mutual Funds, Charles Schwab & Co. and Black Enterprise

PHI-SET "Goal Setting 2000: Balancing your Personal and Professional Life"

PHI-LIV "How to Live a Stress-Free Balanced Life"

PHI-EST "How to Stir Up the Gift: A Time of Praise and Discovering Your Purpose"

PHI-PSB "The Profitable Small Business Institute Part II: Business Finances"

PHI-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session III Philadelphia Sunday, July 25 - 8-9:30am

PHI-MED "Overcoming Stress with Meditation"

PHI-HAI "That Hair Thing: The Politics of Hair and Self-Definition"

PHI-NET "Networking for Professional Power"

PHI-SSB "The Successful Small Business Institute Part III: Long Range & Strategic Planning"

PHI-HAP "Happy, Healthy & Fit: A Personal Plan for Fitness & Healthy Eating"

PHI-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session IV Philadelphia Sunday, July 25 - 10-11:30am

PHI-JCP2 "Fashion Influences: Enhancing your Personal Style" With Carletta Kyles. Presented by JCPenney

PHI-SAV "The Savvy Investor: Refining your Investment Strategies" Presented by Ariel Mutual Funds, Charles Schwab & Co. and Black Enterprise

PHI-POS "How to Position your Business for Success on the Internet"

PHI-POW "The Power of a Positive Public Persona: Enhancing your Communication Skills"

PHI-PLA "The Positive PlayZshop: A Circle of Love, Thanks, Healing and Visualization"

PHI-SBI "Small Business Institute Part IV: One-on-One Consultations"

PHI-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Chicago

Session I Chicago Saturday, July 31 - 8-9:30am

CHI-REV "Raises, Review and Promotions: How to Get What You Want and Deserve"

CHI-LIV "How to Live a Stress-Free Balanced Life"

CHI-SIS "How to be a Sistah!: Seven Steps to SistahHood"

CHI-WIN "The Winning Spirit: Developing the Winner in You"

CHI-LEV "Leveraging your Talent: Effective Self-Marketing & Mentor Matching"

CHI-QSB "The Quintessential Small Business Institute Part I: Business Basics and Plan Outline"

CHI-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session II Chicago Saturday, July 31 - 10-11:30am

CHI-JCP1 "Fashion Influences: Enhancing your Personal Style" With Carletta Kyles. Presented by JCPenney

CHI-101 "Taking the Plunge - Investing 101" Presented by Ariel Mutual Funds, Charles Schwab & Co. and Black Enterprise

CHI-MIN "Mind, Body & Spirit: Preparing for the New Millennium"

CHI-ORG "How to Communicate Up the Organizational Foodchain"

CHI-EST "Self-Esteem, Spirit and Success: Mo' Betta Motivation"

CHI-PSB "The Profitable Small Business Institute Part II: Business Finances"

CHI-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session III Chicago Sunday, August 1 - 8-9:30am

CHI-ARE "Are You On Track: Start your 'New You' Revolution"

CHI-FIN "Finding, Healing and Empowering the Queen Within You"

CHI-CHA "Mastering Change: Navigating Your Career Through Transition & Change"

CHI-PRE "Presentations with Power, Punch and Personality"

CHI-Y2K "Y2K and Your Transformation Plan: Building a Spiritual Foundation for our Families & Careers"

CHI-SSB "The Successful Small Business Institute Part III: Long Range & Strategic Planning"

CHI-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session IV Chicago Sunday, August 1 - 10-11:30am

CHI-JCP2 "Fashion Influences: Enhancing your Personal Style" With Carletta Kyles. Presented by JCPenney

CHI-SAV "The Savvy Investor: Refining your Investment Strategies" Presented by Ariel Mutual Funds, Charles Schwab & Co. and Black Enterprise

CHI-NET "Networking Do's & Taboos: Strategies for Professional Success"

CHI-HAP "Happy, Healthy & Fit: A Personal Plan for Fitness & Healthy Eating"

CHI-MOM "Mompreneurs: Build your Business and Have Time for Your Family"

CHI-SBI "Small Business Institute Part IV: One-on-One Consultations"

CHI-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Washington, DC

Session I Washington, DC Saturday, Aug. 21 - 8-9:30am

WDC-UPS "The Seven 'Ups' to Professional and Personal Success"

WDC-TEN "Ten Steps to Enjoying Better Love Relationships"

WDC-MEM "Mirrors and Memories: On Mother-Daughter Relationships"

WDC-AGE "Finding Happiness at Any Age"

WDC-LIV "How to Live a Stress-Free Balanced Life"

WDC-WEB "SisterWeb: Finding our Place in Cyberspace"

WDC-QSB "The Quintessential Small Business Institute Part I: Business Basics and Plan Outline"

WDC-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session II Washington, DC Saturday, Aug. 21 - 10-11:30am

WDC-JCP1 "Fashion Influences: Enhancing your Personal Style" With Carletta Kyles. Presented by JCPenney

WDC-101 "Taking the Plunge - Investing 101" Presented by Ariel Mutual Funds, Charles Schwab & Co. and Black Enterprise

WDC-MIN "Mind, Body & Spirit: Preparing for the New Millennium"

WDC-CHA "Mastering Change: Navigating Your Career Through Transition & Change"

WDC-EST "How to Stir Up the Gift: A Time of Praise and Discovering Your Purpose"

WDC-PSB "The Profitable Small Business Institute Part II: Business Finances"

WDC-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session III Washington, DC Sunday, Aug. 22 - 8-9:30am

WDC-INT "Spirit and Intuition Working Together for Better Insight of Life's Lessons"

WDC-POT "Not Just the Hands that Stirred the Pot: The New African American Cuisine"

WDC-EXP "Express Yourself: Improving your Public Speaking Skills"

WDC-SOU "On the Way to Finding your Soulmate: A Guide to Relationships"

WDC-TIM "It's About Time!: Manifest your Greatness with Effective Time Management"

WDC-SSB "The Successful Small Business Institute Part III: Long Range & Strategic Planning"

WDC-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session IV Washington, DC Sunday, Aug. 22 - 10-11:30am

WDC-JCP2 "Fashion Influences: Enhancing your Personal Style" With Carletta Kyles. Presented by JCPenney

WDC-SAV "The Savvy Investor: Refining your Investment Strategies" Presented by Ariel Mutual Funds, Charles Schwab & Co. and Black Enterprise

WDC-ORG "Organizing your Life...Controlling the Emotional and Physical Clutter"

WDC-MAN "Managing your Emotions for Greater Personal and Professional Success"

WDC-HAP "Happy, Healthy & Fit: A Personal Plan for Fitness & Healthy Eating"

WDC-SBI "Small Business Institute Part IV: One-on-One Consultations"

WDC-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Atlanta

Session I Atlanta Saturday, Aug. 28 - 8-9:30am

ATL-YOU "So You Want to Publish a Book?"

ATL-GAP "Bridging the Gap - African to America (Yoruba Myths & Ways of Life)"

ATL-PUB "A Pendant for Publicity: PR Strategies for Professional Success"

ATL-CAN "I CAN Get Up: An Inspirational Guide to Overcoming Anxiety and Depression"

ATL-WEA "Weaving a Stronger Fabric: How Elders and Youth Can Build Bridges & Community"

ATL-LEV "Leveraging your Talent: Effective Self-Marketing & Mentor Matching"

ATL-QSB "The Quintessential Small Business Institute Part I: Business Basics and Plan Outline"

ATL-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session II Atlanta Saturday, Aug. 28 - 10-11:30am

ATL-JCP1 "Fashion Influences: Enhancing your Personal Style" With Carletta Kyles. Presented by JCPenney

ATL-101 "Taking the Plunge - Investing 101" Presented by Ariel Mutual Funds, Charles Schwab & Co. and Black Enterprise

ATL-CIR "Circle of Color: Transcending Our Color Issues to Reconnect the Sisterhood"

ATL-LIV "How to Live a Stress-Free Balanced Life"

ATL-EST "How to Stir Up the Gift: A Time of Praise and Discovering Your Purpose"

ATL-PSB "The Profitable Small Business Institute Part II: Business Finances"

ATL-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session III Atlanta Sunday, Aug. 28 - 8-9:30am

ATL-RAI "Busy Parents Raising Blessed People"

ATL-WRI "Writefully Yours" Learn "what makes you tick" through handwriting analysis.

ATL-WAK "Wake Up Your Life: Seeking Opportunities in Life's Lessons"

ATL-TEN "Ten Steps You Can Take Now to Transform your Career into your Passion"

ATL-LOV "How to Obtain & Maintain a Loving Relationship"

ATL-CHA "Mastering Change: Navigating Your Career Through Transition & Change"

ATL-SSB "The Successful Small Business Institute Part III: Long Range & Strategic Planning"

ATL-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

Session IV Atlanta Sunday, Aug. 29 - 10-11:30am

ATL-JCP2 "Fashion Influences: Enhancing your Personal Style" With Carletta Kyles. Presented by JCPenney

ATL-SAV "The Savvy Investor: Refining your Investment Strategies" Presented by Ariel Mutual Funds, Charles Schwab & Co. and Black Enterprise

ATL-MED "Overcoming Stress with Meditation"

ATL-EMP "Empowering Black Women in Corporate America"

ATL-FEA "How to Overcome your Fear & Live More Fearlessly"

ATL-SUC "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff: Strategies for Successful, Organized Living"

ATL-SBI "Small Business Institute Part IV: One-on-One Consultations"

ATL-WOM Women's Rites of Passage

For a more detailed description of each workshop and all Rites of Passage programs, please visit our website at www.aawot.com or call 1-800-560-2298

REGISTRATION FORM SIDE 2

Last: First:

6. CONFERENCE PACKAGES/RATES:

INDIVIDUAL PACKAGES

Full Conference Packages

Adult/Women's Rites	\$300	\$375	\$
Full-Time Student/Senior 65 +	\$260	\$300	\$
Young Women's Rites of Passage	\$260	\$300	\$

One-Day Packages

Friday-Only Package	\$125	\$175	\$
Saturday-Only Package	\$195	\$250	\$
Sunday-Only Package	\$195	\$250	\$

Youth Rites Workshops and Passage Only (no keynote luncheons)

Girls' Rites Workshop Only (no keynote luncheons)	\$105	\$135	\$
Boys' Rites Workshop Only (no keynote luncheons)	\$105	\$135	\$
Young Women's Rites Workshop Only (no keynote luncheons)	\$105	\$135	\$

GROUP PACKAGES

Full payments only. Layaway not applicable. See group registration requirements on reverse side. Rates apply only to:

Adult Full Conference Group Registration (rates are per person)			
10 or more persons	\$265	N/A	\$

7. SCHOLARSHIP DONATION (Optional):

Earmarked for economically disadvantaged women, girls and boys to attend AAWOT. \$

8. SISTERSPEAK NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION (Optional):

\$15/1 year or \$25/2 years. 10 issues per year. \$

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Name on Check: Check#

☐ Purchase Order (Please attach). PO#

Company/Agency:

☐ Money Order/Cashier's Check

☐ Layaway Installment - Add \$10 Layaway Handling Fee (if applicable) \$ 10.00

Payment Record: Keep copy for final payment.

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Dream Journey Café Mugs Peach or Sea Foam Matte 2-Color Motif	\$11 ea. Set of (2) For \$20			
Nylon Zippered Tote Bag Black with Chartreuse Green Imprint	\$20			
Heavy Weight Sweatshirt Crème-Colored w/4-Color Design	\$26			
Dream Journey Wall Clock 4-Color Motif/Battery-Operated	\$19			
Dream Journal Lined Pages Plus AAWOT Crew Affirmations	\$5			
Mahogany/AAWOT Pledge Cards '98 and '99 Collectibles; 4 Blank Note Cards w/Envelopes	\$5			
"Cosmos" Compact Mirror Green w/ 3-Color Motif	\$4			
"Big Shot" Key Chain 4-Color Design	\$4			
"Magnetic Poetry" Picture Frame Leave endearing messages on refrigerator w/ 4" x 6" picture frame	\$6			
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Mobil Uses Economic and Human Resources to Make a Difference in Communities

Habitat for Humanity

When Belinda Belfield awoke one blustery morning this past January, she knew she was one step closer to realizing her dream to own a home. Belfield and her two daughters are recent recipients of a Mobil-sponsored Habitat for Humanity brownstone home in one of New York City's historic Harlem neighborhoods.

Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit organization that builds houses for hundreds of families each year, selected Belfield to help refurbish and own her first home.

The Belfield Family, Habitat personnel, Mobil employees and scores of volunteers spent several months tearing down walls, nailing, plastering and painting to rehabilitate the brownstone. During the dedication ceremony, Belfield and her two girls were all smiles when they received the key to their new home. Today, Belfield is living a big part of her African Dream.

"Self empowerment and economic empowerment are the two best brands of community service," said Aaron Jordan, diversity marketing manager, Mobil. "At Mobil we want to contribute to our neighbors' and the larger community's growth because it's important to reach out to our customers and demonstrate our appreciation for their business."

Mobil is working with communities in several cities across the country to build homes for African American and Latino families with Habitat for Humanity, in partnership with the Mobil Foundation.

Mobil is committed to the concept of developing partnerships with organizations and businesses that represent its diverse customer base. As a responsible corporate citizen, Mobil works in neighborhoods where it conducts business and builds bridges with many grassroots organizations to revitalize communities and encourage empowerment of its residents.

Community Weekends

To increase its pool of African American, female, Native American and Latino franchise owners, in 1996 Mobil established the Special Purpose Credit Program. This initiative provided \$45 million in financing to minorities. The program also made financing more readily available for qualified candidates, while augmenting Mobil's efforts to be responsive and sensitive to the communities where it does business.

Mobil created Community Weekends — two-day mini-festivals held at local Mobil service stations — to benefit urban residents who live near Mobil stations. Currently being held in

Detroit, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, New York, and parts of northern New Jersey, people visiting the Mobil station during Community Weekend can register to vote, receive health screenings, immunizations, child fingerprinting, video identification and more.

Local radio disc jockeys add to the festive weekends by playing music and reporting the fun to their listeners through live radio broadcasts held from the service stations. Contests for free gas and prizes are held throughout the two-day event. Clowns, face painting and games to thrill the kids are an important part of the day. Mobil franchising and employment opportunities also are discussed with interested entrepreneurs and job seekers on-site.

Mobil's Community Weekends are supported by grassroots organizations and volunteers. The National Black Nurses Association, the NAACP, the Urban League, the National Marrow Donor Program and local medical workers volunteer their time to provide service and information.

Support of education continues to be a primary focus for Mobil. Through its Mobil Educational Alliance Program, 1,500 grants of \$500 each are

available for local schools across the country. In partnership with neighborhood Mobil dealers, retailers or distributors, schools are recommended for the grants that can be used for creating or supporting a broad range of school programs based on the needs of the individual schools.

Teach the Children

In 1998, Mobil provided much-needed book bags filled with school supplies for more than 27,000 youth attending schools in disadvantaged communities. Elementary students in 10 cities participated in the Teach the Children program, co-sponsored by Mobil and Kiwanis International. Mobil will expand this back-to-school program this year.

Mobil has partnered with many African American organizations across the country to create economic opportunities, to provide community empowerment and to support the arts, entertainment and education. As the title sponsor of African American Women on Tour (AAWOT) for the second consecutive year, Mobil has invested both financial and human resources in the premier empowerment conference for women. AAWOT provides a forum for uplifting and enhancing the lives of African American women, their families and communities.

"There is a lot of good energy in our communities," stated Jordan. "Mobil is doing more than just providing gasoline. We are providing the fuel for stronger, healthier, safer and more vital communities." 



Photo by Sam Johnson

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TRAVEL IS THE MUSIC OF MY SOUL

By Elaine Lee

ELAINE LEE IS THE AUTHOR OF *GO GIRL! THE BLACK WOMAN'S BOOK OF TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE* AND COORDINATOR OF THE DREAM JOURNEYS CAFE AT AAWOT, A PLACE FOR RELAXATION, NETWORKING AND CREATIVE EXPRESSION. ENJOY LIVE ENTERTAINMENT, IMPROMPTU PERFORMANCES, AUTHOR APPEARANCES AND SIGNINGS. YOU'RE WELCOME TO SHARE YOUR PROSE, POETRY, SONG AND TRAVEL ADVENTURES ON THE OPEN MIC.

The biggest surprise about traveling internationally was to discover that in many parts of the world it is an asset to be a Black woman, unlike in North America, where it is often a liability. When I am abroad, I am usually afforded a level of respect and appreciation that I do not get in my own country.

For a couple of days, weeks or months a year, I kind of like the idea of being consistently treated like a human being. I like going into stores and not being followed or going into a restaurant and not being immediately shuttled to the back table by the kitchen. I enjoy being graciously extended service on a first-come-first-served basis without having to insist on it. It does wonders for my self esteem and peace of mind, which, in turn, contributes to my overall well being. Most of us are not fully aware of the stress involved in being an African American until it's absent. Then it feels like a weight has been lifted off your shoulders and your soul.

In view of our well-known (and documented) shorter life span than whites, as well as our higher percentages of heart attacks, hypertension, obesity and certain types of cancer, I think it behooves us to look at ways to nurture our bodies, minds and spirits.

For me, international travel is a sure-fire way to do just that. It is my "balm in Gilead." When I travel I'm able to release the illusionary control I have on my life and relax into its deeper rhythms. I am able to feel its prompting and follow it. Therein, I find the courage to play with my fear of the unknown, especially when visiting new places and trying new things. My motto for this kind of vibration voyaging is: "The universe rewards acts of faith."

When I tell sisters that I have traveled around the world by myself, they usually say to me, "I could never do that!" or "I could never get enough money together," or "I could never take that much time off of work," or "I'd be too scared." I understand where those feelings come from and, at the same time, I know that travel is more accessible, affordable and less threatening than they perceive it to be. I want the sistren to experience travel as I do, as a form of empowerment, survival and renewal, as well as an avenue to explore economic opportunities in the international marketplace.

Preparing to take a journey is the same whether or not your destination is another state or another state of mind.

In the Dream Journeys Cafe at AAWOT, we will help you:

- 1) Create a vision/Map your dream/Identify your goal
 - 2) Identify the tools necessary to make your dream a reality
 - 3) Identify the team that will help you get there
 - 4) Create a timeline
 - 5) Take a vow of faithfulness to your goal/vision/dream
 - 6) Act as if you are already there.
- Blessed be your journey!

(Contact Elaine Lee at laneybugg@aol.com and visit her web site at www.ugogirl.com.)



Double The Pleasure: The Twin Paradises of St. Kitts and Nevis Islands



ST. KITTS AND NEVIS IS A SPONSOR AND OFFICIAL CARIBBEAN DESTINATION OF THE MOBIL AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN ON TOUR (AAWOT) CONFERENCE SERIES. AAWOT EXECUTIVE PRODUCER MARIA DOWD AND HER SOULMATE EVERETT STATEN VISITED THE ISLANDS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN JANUARY AND FELL IN LOVE WITH ITS RAIN FORESTS, QUIANT INNS NESTLED IN PLUSH HILLSIDES AND THE GRACIOUS PEOPLE THEY MET DURING THEIR STAY. AAWOT WILL HOST A CONFERENCE ON THE ISLAND OF ST. KITTS IN 2001.

Sun, sand, shopping, sports—the islands of St. Kitts and Nevis have it all. And with a colorful history, interesting architecture and unspoiled natural charm included in this tropical mix, it is no wonder tourists keep coming back to these twin island paradises.

St. Kitts and Nevis are located in the Eastern Caribbean, roughly 1,200 miles from Miami and about an hour by plane from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The islands enjoy a pleasant year-round temperature of 79 degrees. The population of St. Kitts, whose capital is Basseterre, is approximately 36,578. Nevis, the smaller of the two islands, has a population of about 9,423. Its capital is Charlestown. A two-mile strait—six minutes by air or 45 minutes by ferry boat—separates the two islands.



People coming to the islands expect excellent beaches. In this regard, St. Kitts and Nevis' white- or black-sand

beaches take a back seat to none.

Various water sports abound. According to Robert F. Marx's *Shipwrecks in the Americas* (Crown/Bonanza Books, 1983), more than 400 ships sank off the coast between 1492 and 1815.

If diving isn't your interest, what about golf at either the 18-hole championship Royal St. Kitts course or the 18-hole Robert Trent Jones course at the Four Seasons Resort on Nevis? Several hotels offer their own tennis courts.

If horseback-riding or horse-racing is your thing, the Nevis Turf and Jockey Club sponsors races at various



Rain forests, quaint inns nestled in plush hillsides and gracious people...

French and English colonists settled on the islands in the 1600s and subsequently fought and annihilated the local Carib people. England ruled the island and controlled its lucrative sugar trade for nearly 200 years, when in 1983, St. Kitts and Nevis gained independence from Britain. The islands are inhabited mostly by Africans who were brought in to work sugar and tobacco crops.

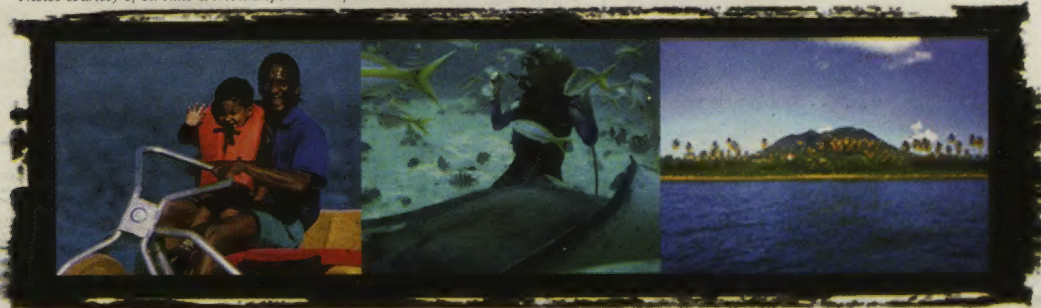
Nowadays, tourism reigns. The ruins of 75 sugar mills are scattered throughout the countryside, some having been converted into hotels. Celebrity visitors include Oprah Winfrey, Walter Peyton, Danny Glover, Janet Jackson, Philip Michael Thomas, Sylvester Stallone and the late Princess Diana.

times each year. Hiking through the mountains and hills or trekking through the rainforests is another option for physically fit tourists of all ages. Those arriving in December often come to enjoy the festive atmosphere of Carnival with brightly costumed parades, good food and merry making for several days.

And don't forget shopping! St. Kitts and Nevis' best-known export is Batik, a unique fabric coloring process that originated in Indonesia centuries ago and is now executed commercially. Batik fabric works equally well as framed art or as fashionable clothing.

So, when you plan your next vacation, think of St. Kitts and Nevis—two islands and two versions of paradise. ☺

Photos courtesy of St. Kitts & Nevis Department of Tourism



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HONORING SELF & COMMUNITY: RITES OF PASSAGE

AAWOT OFFERS SEPARATE RITES OF PASSAGE PROGRAMS FOR BOYS AND ANOTHER FOR GIRLS, AGES 12 TO 18; YOUNG WOMEN, AGES 19 TO 25, AND WOMEN 25 AND OLDER. HERE, RITES FACILITATORS EMILY DIANE GUNTER, SHQUESTRA WHITE STAR SITAWI AND MUTIMA IMANI TALK ABOUT THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF AND THE CURRENT NEED FOR THESE PROGRAMS.

Joining the Circle of Women

By Emily Diane Gunter and Shquestra White Star Sitawi

In African tradition, a young girl comes into womanhood through the passing on of knowledge and customs. In Zaire, when a young girl has her first menstrual cycle, she is immediately secluded from her community and her puberty initiation begins. For up to one month, this child is in isolation with her elders, being instructed in the ways of womanhood. Zulus of South Africa and the Ndema of Zambia both seclude their young women.

In America, we do not have an established program for our girls. We no longer have our ancestral rites and ceremonies. Yet young girls need—*must have*—ritual markings for their passage into womanhood. Because we do not have these ceremonies for our girls, for many, gangs, premarital sex, drugs, and so on “mark” their passage.

Through rites of passage rituals, “First World” girls learn what the community expects from them. African children here in America also need to know what is expected of them by our community, which can only be accomplished through some type of rites of passage program.

From the Rites of Passage Program, youth learn through empowerment instead of through fear. This program teaches teamwork, leadership, values and responsibility at an early age. The Rites of Passage Program bring youths and elders together so the elders can pass on tradition, culture, history

and their special knowledge.

The Rites of Passage Program provides families with a village. The “village” is inhabited by volunteer elders from the community who facilitate the youth through the 21 challenges, experiential exercises and workshops to prevent juvenile delinquency, pregnancy and drug abuse. Rites Programs help decrease dropout rates, increase attendance at school, enhance grade point averages, promote citizenship, and increase college enrollment.

The Rites of Passage Program encourages more communities to mobilize to help the youth learn how to help themselves, believe in themselves and make choices to achieve for themselves. Adults who enjoy positions of special trust, respect, and responsibility in the community must take a clear stand and come forward to the youth.

We must take our children back from the streets and, as African people, we can do it one child at a time.

Recalling, Remembering, Reclaiming

By Mutima Imani

Many of us didn't have the opportunity to graduate from a girls' Rites of Passage program. When I had the experience of seeing the girls crossing over into “adulthood” for the first time, I was moved to tears—tears of joy for the girls and tears of sorrow for myself. I realized that I envied the girls their ceremony. I mentioned this to AAWOT Executive Producer Maria Dowd and she



said, “Why don't you do a Rites of Passage for women next year.”

Professionally, I had been conducting workshops and seminars for more than 10 years. But I didn't have any ideas for what I wanted the Women's Rites program to be. The deadline for coming up with a program was fast approaching and I only knew that I wanted to create something that was new and different.

I finally went into deep meditation and asked for something that would really have a deep impact on African American women. Out of the meditation came the words *recalling, remembering and reclaiming*:

Recalling: Call me by my true name so I can remember who I am.

Remembering: Calling forth my inner strength.

Reclaiming: I am healing energy in action.

Essentially, I realized through meditation that we have a rich and regal heritage that has been forgotten. We are all descendants of queens and when we remember who we really are, we can tap into a divine source of infinite power that is creative and abundant.

I have conducted the AAWOT Rites of Passage program for women for seven years now. The program, entitled *Coming to Awareness: From Unconsciousness to Consciousness*, is designed to give women the opportunities to awaken from the unconscious state of disempowerment to the conscious realization that we are at the center of the universe. Living consciously, we take responsibility for knowing that our every thought, action, word and deed has an effect on the world.



Photos by Stan Johnson



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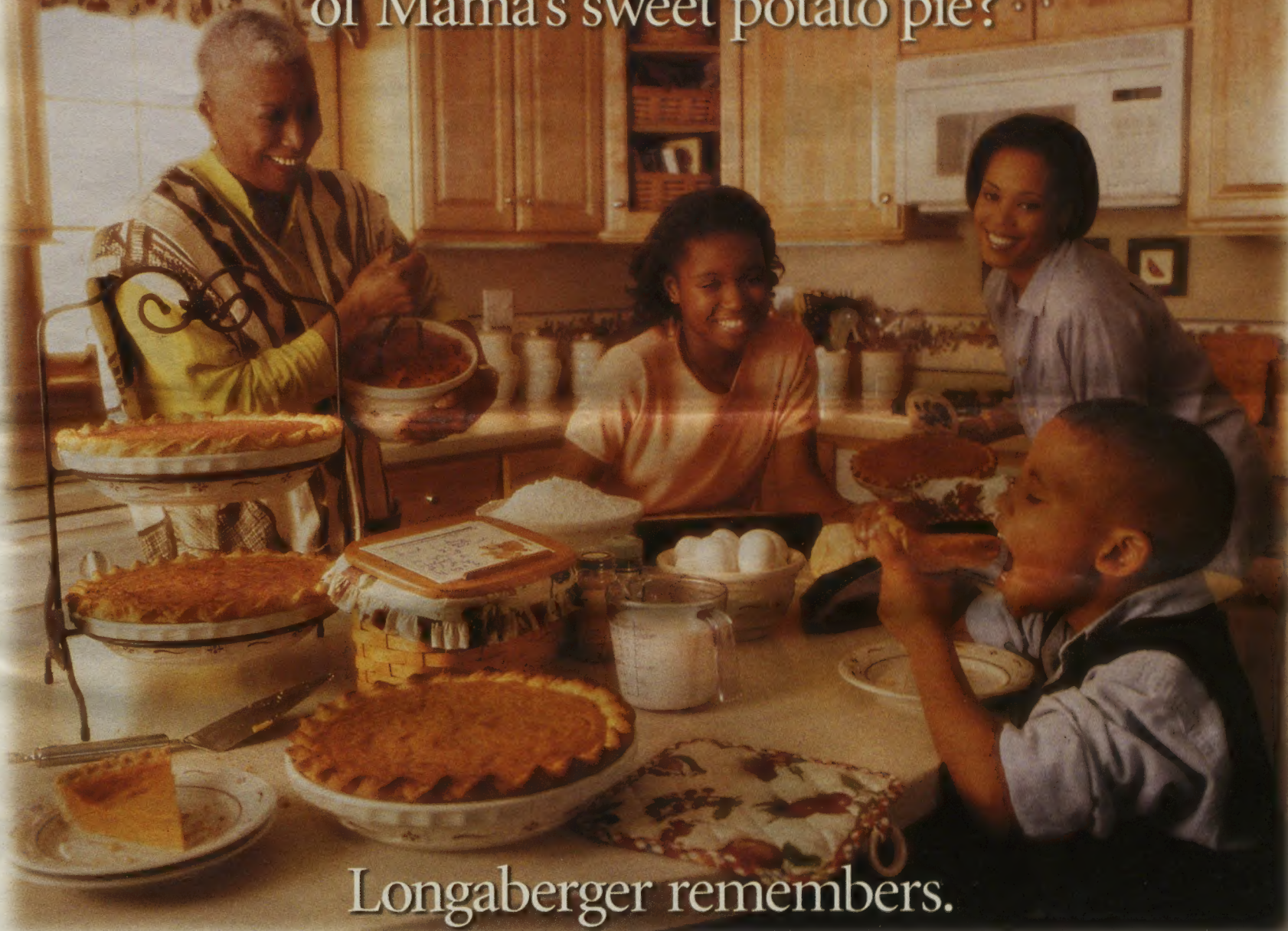


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